FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

14 MAY 1987

Sudan

Cabinet Dissolved — In a statement broadcast by Omdurman radio, Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi announced that the Council of Ministers has been dissolved but that the ministers will remain in place until the "required reorganization" can be accomplished. The decision to "reform and renovate" followed an evaluation of the Council's achievements and shortcomings, the prime minister explained, listing as "negative aspects" of the Council's performance the "delay" in correcting legislation under the previous government, the failure to deal adequately with pressing economic problems, and the inefficiency of some ministers as well as "contradictions" among them. Al-mahdi stressed that his recommendation was based on the need to achieve "a higher level of harmony" and was not due to political differences between the government parties.

Transport Plane Downed — SPLA antiaircraft fire downed a C 130 on its landing approach to Wau 12 May, the clandestine SPLA radio reported, noting that the plane carried two platoons of government reinforcements. An SPLM-SPLA military spokesman cited by the station reiterated the warning against violating rebel-controlled airspace in the south.

Joint Military Maneuvers — In an effort to promote and modernize its armed forces, Sudan will take part in the U.S.-sponsored "Bright Star" maneuvers, according to an *Al-Usbu'* report cited by SUNA.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Talks between Jordan's King Husayn and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn focused on bilateral relations and the general Arab situation, Amman radio reported. The meeting followed King Husayn's arrival in Baghdad 13 May accompanied by the prime minister and other Jordanian officials.

In a cable to the Iraqi leader, broadcast by Amman radio after his return to Jordan, King Husayn noted that their talks were within the framework of efforts to "unify Arab ranks toward joint national action to tackle all the challenges facing our nation." An informed source in Amman cited by Radio Monte Carlo linked the king's visit to Baghdad with his efforts to narrow Syrian-Iraqi differences, adding that King Husayn will shortly leave for Damascus.

Syria

An Arab diplomatic source in Paris cited by MENA stated that the Syrian authorities have foiled a coup planned by a group of Air Force pilots based north of Damascus. The authorities reportedly took preemptive action against the plotters 10 May, executing 40 pilots and arresting 79 others. Monitored Syrian media have not been observed to mention any such development.

Israel

The director general of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's office disclosed that he has given the U.S. Administration a message from Shamir to the effect that steps relating to an international conference are over and nobody in the government is entitled to promote the idea on behalf of the State of Israel, Jerusalem radio reported. Shamir and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres both reaffirmed their positions in interviews with Jerusalem television, with Shamir saying he is proud to have stopped Peres' international conference proposal, which has inflicted "damage" on Israel. Peres rebutted Shamir's claim about damage, stressed that he is not afraid of being dismissed by Shamir for continuing to promote peace, and expressed confidence that a Knesset majority will be found for early elections.

Egypt

Interests Offices Closed — The Iranian interests office in the Swiss Embassy has been ordered closed because its two Iranian diplomats engaged in activities "outside their line of duty," according to an *Al-Akhbar* report cited by MENA. *Al-Ahram* noted that Egypt will close its interests office under the auspices of the French Embassy in Tehran, the agency added.

Rioters Sentenced — According to an *Al-Ahram* report cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon, 27 police conscripts were sentenced to 3 years imprisonment for their actions during the February 1986 riots.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi warplanes carried out separate attacks on two large maritime targets near the Iranian coast 13 May, according to a military statement carried by Baghdad radio. A military source told INA that Iranian reports of a battle in the Fakkeh area east of Maysan were "fabricated" to divert attention from losses inflicted by Iraqi air strikes.

According to IRNA, Kurdish "insurrectionists" took over three Iraqi military bases in the Sayyid Sadiq-Halabjah area of Al-Sulaymaniyah Province. The agency also reported that some 1,000 Iraqi troops have joined the revolt since it began 12 May.

Iran

Return of Assets — Reporting on the return to Iran of 451 million dollars of assets previously frozen by the United States, IRNA cited an informed source at Iran's International Legal Services bureau who stressed that the "vigilance" of committed Iranian legal experts had thwarted all U.S. "plots" to "distort" the case and exploit it for political reasons.

Torture Denial — The Iranian Embassy in London denied Amnesty International's "baseless allegations" that torture is

practiced in Iran, IRNA reported. Stressing that "torture is forbidden in Islam," the Embassy said that methods of punishment in Iran are based entirely on the Koran and the precepts of Islam.

Arrested Italians — The Italian Foreign Ministry confirmed that the Iranian authorities have arrested two Italian engineers working in Iran, Rome radio disclosed.

Gulf Affairs

Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy's denial that he met with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Besharati in the UAE proves that the credibility of U.S. officials has reached its lowest ebb, Kuwait's *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* stated in a 14 May editorial cited by KUNA. The paper predicted that Gulf Arabs will increasingly turn for help to the Soviet Union to break their dependence on the United States.

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PLO Executive Committee Begins Meetings in Tunis

LD140855 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0806 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] Tunis, 14 May (KUNA) — The PLO Executive Committee began meeting late yesterday evening in Tunis under the chairmanship of Yasir 'Arafat.

WAFA reports that the committee's agenda covers a number of Palestinian, Arab, and international issues, particularly the situation in Lebanon and the occupied Arab territories, as well as current political developments, including the Middle East peace conference.

Kuwaiti Paper Interviews Abu Nidal Spokesman

JN131237 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 12 May 87 p 25

[Interview with 'Atif Abu Bakr, official spokesman of the Fatah-Revolutionary Council, by an unidentified *Al-Anba'* correspondent — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [*Al-Anba'*] The world agrees that you are terrorists. What is your philosophy about terrorism and what is your position toward it? Having come back on the field in a new form, how will you face this new world consensus, knowing that you surprised everyone by participating in the comprehensive dialogue alongside a Palestinian delegation with whom you differ on many issues. How did you achieve this?

[Abu Bakr] To begin with, I should say we cannot be moderate when talking about Palestinian rights. From this premise, some parties have called us extremists and hardliners. Despite that, we did not give in to such extortion. Palestinian rights are crystal clear; that is why we, as an organization, believe we cannot give them up and have grown up knowing this. As for comments that we have returned to the Palestinian arena, we can say that we never left it. We remained an inseparable part of the revolutionary process. We abandoned bargaining, hesitation, and the search for a homeland at the tables of liquidation. Many went deep into this tunnel and returned empty-handed. Our position toward terrorism is identical to that of our Arab-Palestinian people, who have been suffering for two-thirds of a century. Terrorism still affects our people. The occupation continues, and the Zionist entity is still pressing its teeth deep into the Palestinian land and people. This entity is merely a phenomenon based in the first place on terrorism. This is why from their own experience, the Palestinian people regard terrorism as their prime enemy because they have suffered from it. Belonging to this people and its nationalist movement, we regard terrorism as the main crime, which imperialism converted into an industry and a science in the 20th century and which preoccupied millions of people on our planet.

We discriminate between criminal terrorism and revolutionary violence. Revolutionary violence and armed struggle are legitimate methods, which we did not invent. All oppressed and presecuted peoples resort to these methods to attain a balance and then to overcome their enemies. They consequently achieve victory. Terrorism is always the weapon used by fascist, imperialist and reactionary forces to attain hegemony. Terrorism is a crime committed against peoples. the U.S. imperialism is still the master of this ghoul known as terrorism, whose weapons are used to extort peoples and independent countries and with which they brand all the liberation movements, all the peoples' revolutions, and all the countries that antagonize them politically, economically and socially. We notice too that there is institutionalized terrorism in the United States designed to back mercenaries and renegade forces in Mozambique, Angola, Nicaragua, El Salavador and the racist entities in South Africa and Palestine. There is also another type of terrorism focusing on food. In Sudan, hundreds of thousands of children starve every year. The U.S. imperialism debts to Third World peoples exceeded a trillion dollars [sentence as published]. There is also a type of terrorism practiced by the Western media against European and American minds by presenting them with false and poisonous ideas. [passage omitted]

We draw a clear line between violence and terrorism. We never confuse the two and do not care about what U.S. propaganda says or tries to confuse. The Algerian people were dubbed terrorists when they tried to acheive independence from colonialist France. Europeans were called terrorists and other peoples are still waiting for their role to be included on the same list. When the Libyan people resisted the imperialist ambitions, expelled bases, and liberated their oil, they were added to the same list, so were Castro and the Cuban people. Therefore, we are among those calling for all forms of regional and international conferences to precisely define terrorism and its opposite. We believe U.S. imperialism will strongly resist. This policeman who is engaged in terrorism on all continents, seas, and airspaces through his military might cannot submit to the UN definition of terrorism because terrorism has become a weapon in his hand through which he practices extortion by accusing other peoples of being engaged in terrorism.

We say again that we are adamant in adherence to Palestinian rights. There is no moderation in this regard no matter what harsh, false words they use to describe us. We are a faction that adheres to our people's rights, constants, and future. We are a faction with a conviction in armed struggle and the practice of revolutionary violence against the advanced imperialist base in our country, the Zionist entity, and against all of the Zionist and imperialist veins feeding it, inside and outside the homeland. This conviction will never budge because there is a close relationship between this base and the extensions which feed it, as well as the dens that exercise aggression against our people, whether they are inside or outside Palestinian territory. We will not ignore any den committing aggression, will not present it with roses, and will deal with them in the appropriate manner, which is armed revolutionary violence.

[*Al-Anba'*] There is confirmed information that the Revolutionary Council pledged not to carry out military operations outside the occupied territories. Does this agree with what you have said?

[Abu Bakr] I said in the previous answer that in the Zionist entity we see a phenomenon totally based on terrorism. Therefore, the struggle is open until this colonialist racist base is destroyed. This may not be achieved in the near future, but we believe the danger will continue to threaten our nation and the future of our people as long as this colonialist, expansionist, aggresive base, closely

linked to U.S. imperialism, is standing over our Palestinian Arab people's chests and soil.

We have said we realize the strong relationship and links between world Zionism and imperialism and that this relationship is a compulsory outcome of U.S. imperialism and the Zionist movement. Everyone realizes this and states it in their analyses. If this is true as far as analyses are concerned, then it should be true in the arena of confrontation. That is, we should view this entity together with its various links to imperialism and Zionism and attach the same importance to every link. We firmly say this entity is the direct danger planted in our Palestinian soil. We also realize all the channels that feed this entity and which have to be severed, starting with U.S. interests, the Zionist movement, and the dens that inject this entity with its daily sustenance. Otherwise, we will have presented a true picture of the situation in our analyses, but neglected a great deal in the arena of confrontation, and not prevented the support that provides this entity with its daily sustenance.

We also realize this entity carries out daily aggression not only in our country, but also outside the borders of the land they usurped. This entity carries out aggression against our people's refugee camps in Lebanon as it did previously in Jordan, Syria, and elsewhere, and against our people throughout the diaspora. We would like to remind those who refuse to take heed that this entity, through its Zionist Mossad, recently killed Majid Abu Sharar in Rome, Al-Hamshari in Paris, Mahmud Salih and Waiil Zu'aytir in Rome, Sami Abu Al-Khayr in Cyprus, Al-Qubaysi, Abu Diyah, and others. They bombed the Palestinian headquarters in Tunis, the Iraqi nuclear reactor in Baghdad, and committed every evil act. Thus, anyone who believes or is deluded into believing our organization will provide such a fatal guarantee is mistaken. Moreover, anyone who believes we view our enemy through one eye only and that we only see half the picture is mistaken. Anyone who claims we do should publicly prove this. We affirm to those who make such claims that we would soon provide tangible, practical evidence to refute their calims. Those who fear Western media and only pay attention to the wishes of imperialism and European reactionary circles, should do their utmost and through their various channels if they can, to prevent these dens from carrying out aggression against our people. They should think like this if they have any shame. As long as aggression, evil deeds, and this Zionist entity continue, we will regard our enemy as a single network stretching from the occupied Palestinian territory to the farthest den of evil in the world.

[*Al-Anba'*] However, this action that you call revolutionary violence and the world calls terrorism has harmed the Arab reputation in the international arena. You can ask any Arab citizen coming from Europe or the United States whether he is an ordinary citizen or an educated one to realize how much they suffer from this. How do you deal with this state of affairs, especially since such actions will intensify the siege imposed on the Arabs in the West?

[Abu Bakr] I said a short while ago that revolutionary violence is legitimate when it is carried out against these dens and the enemies who carry out aggression. However, terrorism is illegitimate and criminal and actually hurts the reputation of Arabs, not only in Western Europe but everywhere. We have affirmed our condemnation of terrorism and stressed the need to direct fire against these evil, aggressive dens regardless of their cover. We believe these terrorist operations, which have taken place and which harm the Arab reputation were planned by the Zionist Mossad itself and were falsely linked to this or that group. Therefore, we reject terrorism as a whole but say that revolutionary violence is a legitimate action to pursue our enemies both inside and outside. [passage omitted]

KUWAIT

Government 'Diplomacy' Aids U.S.-Arab 'Contacts'

LD131637 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 13 May 87

[Excerpts] While contacts and consultations are going on among Arab leaders on current Arab issues, with the Palestinian cause and the Iran-Iraq war at the forefront, Richard Murphy, U.S. presidential envoy and assistant secretary of state for Middle East affairs, is visiting the GCC states with the declared aim of ending the Iran-Iraq war.

Kuwaiti diplomacy plays an active role in these contacts in the service of Islamic and Arab issues while his highness the amir chairs the Islamic Summit Conference. One of the prominent efforts of Kuwaiti diplomacy was the brief visit made the day before yesterday by Shaykh Sabah Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He was entrusted by his highness the amir to convey a verbal message to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, on recent developments in the Arab Gulf and the Arab situation in general. Moreover, 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Husayn, adviser at the amir's office, traveled to Egypt to convey a written message from his highness the amir to President Husni Mubarak on national questions. Emphasis was placed on the Palestinian issue, relations between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the PLO, and the ties between Kuwait and Egypt. The visit, and the message from his highness the amir, were part of the process of consultation between the two countries. It is founded upon Kuwait's interest in Islamic and Arab issues, as his highness the amir is chairman of the current ICO session.

The continuing war in the Gulf is a heavy burden on the region and on peace. It is also an additional weight on Islamic and Arab issues, which require everyone's attention. On the basis of the interest shown by various states, and the superpowers in particular, in working to stop this war and sending delegates to the region to study ways of ending it, his highness the amir received Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Middle East affairs, who conveyed to his highness — may God protect him — a message from President Ronald Reagan. The U.S. envoy also had talks with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad. Murphy said that during his meeting with his highness the amir and with the deputy prime minister and foreign minister he examined bilateral relations, the overall situation in the Gulf, developments in the Iran-Iraq war, and attempts to halt this conflict. He added that freedom of navigation is a fundamental principle of U.S. policy not only in the Gulf region, but throughout the world.

Given Kuwait's Islamic, Arab, and national responsibilities, it devotes a fair share of its attention to amassing international support for those questions of concern to Arabs and Muslims. Kuwaiti policy has proved its efficiency over the years in the service of these causes in the best ways and under difficult conditions. Today it continues this role, as Kuwait has preserved its known and long-standing position in rallying the energy and international influence of the Arab and Islamic world on behalf of Arab and Islamic issues. [passage omitted]

The Iran-Iraq war has attracted widespread international attention due to the casualties and destruction it has caused and the dangers it poses to world and regional peace. For these reasons, every effort must be made to stop it to protect the security of this strategic area. What Kuwait and the fraternal Islamic and Arab states are doing is a requirement imposed by their duty to keep the region from greater danger.

The efforts of his highness the amir and Kuwaiti diplomacy to preserve Islamic and Arab interests, as well as their continuous work in this area, highlight the great problems and issues that must be solved to guarantee strength and resistance for the Islamic and Arab nation and ensure peace, security, and further development and prosperity for our region.

AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM Comments on U.S. 'Credibility'

LD140849 Kuwait KUNA in English 0756 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] Kuwait, May 14 (KUNA) — *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm*, in its editorial Thursday, said that U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy's denial of meeting Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Besharati in Abu Dhabi proves that the credibility of American officials has reached its lowest ebb.

The paper added that the Gulf area, particularly Kuwait, is witnessing a great turning point which will change all the current equilibriums between East and West.

The area falls within the West's interests, in the security, economic and oil fields, and this circle is in the process of being broken, the paper underlined.

It went on saying that Arabs will ask the Soviets for help to save them from the American claws. "The Soviets are very slow in their calculations, but the 'comrades', when they act, are firm and precise."

AL-HAWADITH Interviews Crown Prince on PNC, War

PM141017 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 15 May 87 pp 18, 19

[Interview with Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, crown prince and prime minister, by Milhim Karam; place and date not given]

[Text] Milhim Karam: What is your view of the results of the PNC session in Algiers?

Al-Sabah: Kuwait hailed the convening of the 18th PNC session on the grounds this was seen as a way of unifying the Palestinian struggle and uniting the Palestinian brothers. We hope the PNC resolutions will have a practical impact on the road to a just struggle to restore legitimate rights, and that this meeting will be an effective step toward achieving this objective.

Milhim Karam: What about an honorable end to the Palestinian problem to recover rights and strengthen justice? And what is Kuwait's stand toward an international conference to solve the Palestinian problem?

Al-Sabah: The world powers, especially the big powers, have now begun to realize that the Middle East question cannot be solved without a permanent solution to the Palestinian problem. They also recognize that any solution to the Palestinian problem must include the restoration of legitimate rights to the Palestinian people, including their rights to establish their own state on their national soil. I believe the international community has begun to move in this direction by increasingly accepting the idea of an international conference, which will be attended by all parties concerned with the Palestinian problem under UN auspices. Of course, the Zionist enemy will, as usual, resort to subterfuge, deception, and delay in seeking to continue his occupation of Arab land and usurpation of legitimate Palestinian rights.

Milhim Karam: What about the Arab summit in Riyadh? Have preparations been made for it?

Al-Sabah: The Arab leaders held a number of meetings on the sidelines of the fifth Islamic summit, which was held in Kuwait at the end of January. We believe both the Arab and international situations require an Arab summit more than ever before, and in fact there is nothing to prevent the convening of such a summit.

Milhim Karam: What about Egypt's return to the Arab fold and its invitation to attend the summit in Riyadh? Will Camp David cease or continue?

Al-Sabah: Kuwait invited fraternal Egypt to attend the fifth Islamic summit and brother President Husni Mubarak attended, heading a large delegation whose presence was distinguished and whose participation was positive. Egypt has always had a special position in the Arab nation and so has its effective role in the Arab struggle and effort to serve our pan-Arab causes. Its participation in any upcoming Arab meeting or maneuver would undoubtedly strengthen our collective efforts and enhance Arab solidarity, which we should concentrate on at this crucial time.

Milhim Karam: In reality, how are your relations with the Soviet Union, the United States, and Europe?

Al-Sabah: We are eager to establish our foreign relations on the basis of friendship, cooperation, and mutual respect with everyone in accordance with our national, Arab, and Islamic interests. This of course applies to our relations with the Soviet Union, the United States, and Western Europe, which are cordial friendly relations as well as ties of fruitful cooperation. This is especially true of the economic and trade fields which, in our opinion, form a strong bond of common interests. We cooperate with all as much as they cooperate with us. The best evidence of this is probably what you can see in our country today — that, is multinational companies participating in the execution of our various projects and also what you can see in our markets, namely various commodities coming from East and West, which are sold without discrimination.

Milhim Karam: Now that some time has passed since its establishment, is the GCC still achieving its prescribed objectives in terms of unity, security, and security and military coordination?

Al-Sabah: The GCC has managed to make great strides on the road to achieving the prosperous objectives the leaders of the GCC countries sought in the interest of our region and the prosperity of its peoples.

With God's help the GCC has become a well-established fact, and enjoys international respect. The council has also passed the stage of coordination to actual cooperation and integration in all spheres, including security and defense.

Milhim Karam: What about the Gulf war: Is there a prevailing impression that it is on the way to a solution or will it continue? Has the current round of Islamic and international endeavors produced an agreement to end this war?

Al-Sabah: The Gulf war has gone beyond the limits of reason, logic, and nationalist, Islamic, and humanitarian considerations. Its continuation means only more destruction and ruin for the two Muslim peoples and more weakness and fragmentation for the Islamic nation. We remain hopeful that the Muslim neighbor, Iran, will respond to Islamic and international endeavors for peace, as fraternal Iraq did. This conflict is on the verge of spreading beyond the boundaries of the two warring countries to reach most states in this region, a region vital to the whole world, and whose consequences have caused waves of tension at the international level.

Milhim Karam: Is there any way out of Lebanon's ordeal, and have the Arab states and Kuwait taken any initiatives on this?

Al-Sabah: The Lebanese people have suffered enough from this civil war and the comprehensive destruction and ruin it has caused. The Arab states in general, and Kuwait in particular, will spare no effort to put an end to this suffering and restore security and peace to all parts of beloved Lebanon. But the fact is that no initiative or move made in this regard will succeed unless our Lebanese brothers agree that the time has come to end this infighting and bloodshed and begin the battle of building, construction, and hard work to achieve harmony and understanding.

Milhim Karam: If you were forced into a military confrontation, would Kuwait be ready?

Al-Sabah: We are not instigators of war, nor do we seek confrontation and trouble. We are a peace-loving country seeking to secure a better life for our people and those who come to our land. We participate as much as we can in prosperity for all mankind. We believe in love and understanding and goodneighborliness. Our hands are extended in friendship and cooperation to whoever reciprocates these feelings. But if our country is attacked or the security of our territories and the sovereignty of our homeland are violated, we will not hesitate for a moment to confront the aggressor, whoever he may be, in accordance with the words of Almighty God: Verily, God will defend those who believe; verily God loveth not any that is a traitor to the faith or shows ingratitude. To those against whom war is made, permission is given, because they are wronged; and verily God is most powerful for their aid [Koranic verse].

Milhim Karam: Is Kuwait's security assured? What about the military capability for confrontation to defend the borders and the land?

Al-Sabah: Yes, Kuwait's security is assured, due to God's help and care, the watchful eyes which maintain the security of the homeland and citizens, and the solidity of our internal front, which is the foundation of our strength and resistance. Keeping abreast of this is our military capability represented by our brave military forces whose men have offered themselves for the homeland.

The incidents of sabotage that took place are just isolated acts committed by lost souls. They cannot be described as a wave of sabotage. However, these incidents may seem bigger than they really are because of the nature of our peaceful country and secure society, which is not used to such crimes.

Milhim Karam: There has been talk of a cabinet reshuffle and the formation of a new government. Will this take place soon?

Al-Sabah: The current government is carrying out its missions in the required manner; its members are bearing their responsibility satisfactorily and, therefore, there is no need right now to think of changing the government. But of course, should circumstances require a change or a new government, such a procedure would be normal, as it is everywhere else.

Paper Links 'Crime' to Superpower 'Foothold'

JN131843 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 13 May 87 p 1

[Editorial: "The Suspect is Almost Saying Come and Get Me"]

[Text] Once again the sinful hand tried to stir up trouble in our country, choosing an innocent target and an innocent victim for this unjustifiable crime. Not only is the new crime unjustifiable, but we have suddenly found ourselves in the heart of an unjustifiable onslaught and both Kuwait and its vital interests have become a selected target of attacks that are only justified by the black delusions existing in the heads of their owners. To be more correct, they are not black delusions because the attacks have been deliberately timed to coincide with efforts made by superpowers to acquire a military foothold in our region under the guise of protecting us from greater evil. Therefore, are we not entitled to ask whether the perpetrators of the attacks and those marketing protection plans are working for the same employer?

Nevertheless, we are aware of such plans and will not be intimidated into throwing ourselves on to the lap of one world power or another. Kuwait has repeatedly announced that it assumes full responsibility for the defense of its territorial sovereignty on land, at sea, and in the air, while the protection of navigation in international waters is the international community's responsibility.

The sinful crime deserves nothing from us except disdain for the superficiality of its perpetrators. We have gained such moral and material strength that we cannot be shaken by such disturbances, the aims of which have become clear to all officials and citizens. We know those responsible for security are making tremendous efforts to protect the country from such tamperers and they have largely succeeded in accomplishing this vital national task. If the tamperers managed once to avoid the vigilant eyes, they will not be able to escape from the fist of truth. As for our homeland, it is fortified, and our morale is immunized against disturbances. As for the suspect, he is almost saying come and get me.

Oil Shipping to Japan 'Going on Normally'

LD131248 Kuwait KUNA in English 1005 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Kuwait, May 13 (KUNA) — A Kuwaiti official Wednesday denied press reports which claimed that Japanese oil refineries had stopped purchasing Kuwaiti oil following the Japanese sailors union decision not to sail in the northern part of the Arab Gulf.

Deputy General Director for Marketing Affairs in the Far East at the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) 'Abdullah al-Rumi affirmed in a statement to daily *Al-Qabas* that Kuwaiti oil shipping operation to Japan is going on normally and no importer of Kuwaiti oil has expressed desire to stop purchases of the Kuwaiti crude.

He explained that the Japanese sailors union have threatened last week to refrain from sailing to the north of the Gulf following the attack on a Japanese giant tanker last Tuesday, but the threats did not materialize which means that the Japanese refineries do not have problems with their suppliers of Kuwaiti oil.

The same press reports yesterday also claimed that Japanese refineries will purchase Iranian crude to compensate the resulting shortage expected to be around 150,000 barrels per day.

PDRY

Supreme Council Welcomes Results of PNC Session

EA132212 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1815 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] The PDRY Supreme People's Council has viewed with satisfaction the results of the 18th unity session of the PNC in which the PLO regained its unity. The session demonstrated genuine revolutionary evidence of its ability to restore the unity of its ranks, thus facing all imperialist and Zionist bets and challenges not only against the Palestinian revolution, but against all Arab nationalist liberation movements, forces, and progressive regimes.

This was contained in a statement issued by the 3d session of the PDRY Supreme People's Council on the 18th session of the PNC. The statement said the recovery of the unity of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, is dear to all who value the cause of the Palestinian people's struggle, namely, friends and brothers.

The council also said the restoration of PLO unity will help restore Arab solidarity and settle minor differences between the Arab states so the imperialist and Zionist dangers fabricated

against the struggle of our Arab peoples und their national rights can be met. The council supports the efforts made to hold an Arab summit to mend the rift in Arab ranks and reinforce their steadfastness to confront imperialist and Zionist designs.

Government Signs Documents on USSR Aid Programs
EA140959 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 13 May 87

[Excerpt] A number of PDRY-USSR protocols and notes were signed this morning at the Ministry of Energy and Minerals. A protocol under which a study will be prepared by the USSR on the socioeconomic of democratic union [as heard] up to the year 2000 was signed. Under the terms of the accord, a 250-kilowatt shortwave radio station will be built.

A mutual note was also signed under which the Soviet side will offer assistance for the completion of engineering and technical studies, including hydrogeological studies, provided for in a protocol signed in June 1972. A feasibility report was also signed with the Yemeni side. It was prepared last March at the 13th session of the joint economic committee and concerns the establishment of a fisheries complex on Socotra Island. In addition, another protocol was signed noting that tractors fitted with the necessary agricultural equipment, as well as a number of other vehicles, will be provided as a gift to our country from the USSR. This donation will reinforce the technical material base of the Lenin Government Farm in Abyan Governorate.

The protocols and notes were signed on Yemen's behalf by Comrades Salih Abu Bakr Husaynun, member of the Central Committee, deputy prime minister and minister of energy and minerals; Salim Muhammad Jubran, member of the Central Committee and minister of fish resources; and Ahmad Ali Muqbil, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform. They were signed for the Soviet Union by Comrades Skachkov, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations [title as heard]; and Albert Rachkov, candidate memebr of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR ambassador to Aden. [passage omitted]

Defense Delegation Departs for Bulgarian Congress
EA132206 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Brother 'Umar 'Abd al-Samad, head of the National Command of the People's Defense Committees Organization, left for Sofia yesterday at the head of a delegation from the organization to participate in the Bulgarian National Front's 10th congress, which will be held this week. During its stay in Bulgaria, the delegation will hold talks with officials from the Bulgarian National Front on the development of relations between the two organizations in the two friendly countries.

QATAR

Papers Assess Murphy Tour, U.S. Regional Policy
JN121638 Doha QNA in Arabic 0940 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Doha, 12 May (QNA) — Qatari newspapers published editorials today on U.S. envoy Richard Murphy's Middle Eastern tour, noting that it comes amid active Soviet moves and the escalation of the Iraq-Iran war. The papers stressed the need to end this war and to support all efforts designed to solve the Middle East question.

The English-language paper *Gulf Times* said the United States is a spectator in the Iraq-Iran war. It also plays the role of strategic ally to the Zionist entity. This position must be changed. The paper asked Murphy to properly convey the demands of the Arab Gulf countries to the U.S. Administration, which deal with these two issues and other qustions of interest to the two sides. The paper pointed out that the Arabs want the United States to adopt a neutral just position toward the Middle East question. The paper said peace in the Middle East can only be attained by solving the Palestinian question, which requires the PLO's participation in any effort to attain peace. The *Gulf Times* warned the United States that its current policy will not cut down the Palestinian struggle. The paper also demanded that the United States, in its capacity as a superpower, attain international peace and help the Palestinians acquire their right to self-determination.

Al-'Arab said Murphy's tour will not bring about new changes that will restore confidence in the missing U.S. credibility, or establish peace in the region, or end the Iraq-Iran war. The paper added that since he began his trip in the region a few days ago, Murphy has not stopped making vague statements. This indicates that Washington does not want to launch effective, positive, and serious moves to back the regional and international efforts to end the war. The paper drew attention to the fact that the outcome of the U.S. deal has not been eliminated and that this deal was accompanied by giving misleading information to the two warring sides under the pretext of helping them. This was actually intended to continue and prolong the war. *Al-'Arab* stressed that the U.S. Administration does not conceal its intention to consume the economic and military capabilities of the two fraternal Muslim countries because any growing Arab or Islamic force in any part of the world implies an increased threat to U.S. interests.

The weekly magazine *Al-'Ahd* said the Murphy tour reflects America's increasing interest in the region. The magazine asks: Is Washington really serious about guaranteeing Gulf security and preserving its stability? The magazine adds that this question leads to others on the reasons for the U.S. deal with Iran, a deal that led to the loss of much of Washington's credibility and its claims of neutrality in the Iraq-Iran dispute. At the same time, it continued to threaten to use the Rapid Deployment Force in the region, thus representing a return to the style of old imperialism. *Al-'Ahd* stressed that genuine neutrality cannot be attained by supplying one side with weapons, through open collusion with the Zionist enemy, or through satisfaction with

watching the war as long as it consumes the resources and capabilities of the two warring countries.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Receives Message From UAE President

LD132222 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2150 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Jeddah, 13 may (SPA) — King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-Aziz 'al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, has received a message from his brother, UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan.

The message was conveyed by Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, the UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, during an audience with the custodian of the two holy mosques at the latter's office in Al-Salam Palace this evening.

The meeting was also attended by his Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister; and Hisham Nazir, minister of petroleum and mineral resources and acting planning minister.

YAR

PLO's 'Arafat Makes Statement, Departs Sanaa

JN131244 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, left Sanaa last night after a short visit to our country. In a statement to SABA', 'Arafat said that during the visit he met with Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and secretary general of the General People's Congress. He noted that he discussed Palestinian, Arab, and international developments with the president. He praised the support of our country — leadership, government, and people — for the Palestinian people's just cause, as well as our country's firm and permanent stands in backing the Palestinian people's just and legitimate struggle. In his statement, 'Arafat noted that he and the brother leader also examined the question of Arab solidarity and efforts to hasten the convention of an Arab summit to meet the challenges facing the Arab nation. He added that he briefed the leader president on the situation in the occupied Arab territories, and on the Palestinian people's uprising, which has been continuing for more than 5 months in all cities, villages, and camps in the occupied territory. It was this rebellion that prompted the Zionist occupation forces to close universites and schools and to storm the cities of Qalqiliyah and (?Fafah).

Concluding his remarks, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] said that confrontations have continued in the occupied territories between the Palestinian masses and the Zionist occupation forces.

'Arafat was seen off by a number of brother officials and by Brother 'Abdallah Abu al-Hunud, the PLO charge d'affaires in Sanaa; Col Abu Humayd, commander of the Sabra camp; and a number of the Palestinian revolution cadres in Sanaa.

Government Closes Iranian Interests Office

NC131223 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Cairo, 13 May (MENA)— MENA has learned that Egypt has closed the Iranian interests office in Cairo and has given the Iranian diplomat working there 7 days to leave the country.

The Iranian diplomat to be deported is Mahmud Mohtadi. The other three members of the office staff are locals. It is worth noting that Switzerland looks after Iranian interests in Cairo.

Further on Closure

NC140400 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2240 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Cairo, 13 May (MENA) — In its edition to be published tomorrow, Thursday, *Al-Akhbar* states that Egypt decided to close the Iranian Interests Section, which is attached to the Swiss Embassy in Cairo, after the two diplomats working there carried out activities which, in today's accepted diplomatic jargon, were incompatible with their duties.

Al-Ahram reports that Egypt has also decided to close down the Egyptian Interests Section in Tehran, which is under the supervision of the French Embassy there, and to recall the Egyptian diplomat working in the office. According to *Al-Ahram*, this decision has already been passed on to the French Foreign Ministry.

The paper adds that Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, is scheduled to issue a statement on this Thursday morning.

'Abd al-Majid, Soviet Envoy Discuss Relations

NC112123 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met today with the Soviet ambassador in Cairo. The ambassador stated after the meeting that they had discussed bilateral relations and means of developing them. He said that the financial agreement signed by the two countries is considered the beginning of a new development in Egyptian-Soviet relations. He added that he and the deputy prime minister had examined developments in the Middle East and efforts to convene an international peace conference. He affirmed his country's support for such a gathering, saying that the Soviet Union has held contacts with a number of parties concerned with the Middle East crisis to discuss the international conference and its importance.

'Normal Relations' Studied

NC132126 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] The Soviet ambassador in Cairo said today that the Egyptian and Soviet Governments are currently studying important points pertaining to the restoration of normal relations between the two countries, the appointment of military attaches, and the opening of Soviet consulates in Egypt.

Mubarak Comments on Peace Conference Prospects

NC131549 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1245 GMT 13 May 87

[Statement by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, followed by responses to questions by unidentified correspondents, after his inspection of the Misr al-'Amiliyah Textile Company near Alexandria on 13 May — recorded]

[Text][Mubarak][Words indistinct] Quite frankly, I am as happy as if the factory were my own property, but then, this would be the feeling of anyone who sees such an achievement in his native country. A factory with this capability will have great export potential. [Words indistinct] the factory has cost a lot and therefore must export a large percentage of its output [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] Do you believe that your meeting with King Husayn yesterday will help bring about an international peace conference?

[Mubarak] I wish he were here with us today to see this giant factory. But to answer your question, we are all working in that direction. King Husayn and I are continuously exchanging views on convening the international conference, for it represents our last chance to solve the 40-year-old Palestinian issue. We have reached a stage where the entire world supports the international conference, and we must press forward now. I appeal to the PLO to respond to these efforts. Despite the fact that the PLO has frozen the Jordanian-Palestinian accord, I still say them: Bear in mind that there is a people living under the yoke of occupation. Seek a solution so you may join the international conference. Without mentioning any points or setting specific conditions, find a way that will facilitate your participation in the international conference, so we may proceed before it is too late.

[Correspondent] In your opinion, is the conflict among the Israeli parties real, or is it just a tactic?

[Mubarak] If you truly want to know if it is a genuine or a tactical conflict, you must go there and ask them. As for myself, I watch and [word indistinct] the information for myself.

[Correspondent] Some are for the international conference, and others are opposed to it.

[Mubarak] They will eventually agree to the conference. They are only maneuvering with one another now, and we can live with that. However, we have this to say to Shamir: The conference will not hurt anyone. We should cooperate, for we all have peace as our goal. We must cooperate so that the land may return to its owners and we may all live in peace and harmony.

Memorandums on Tabah Exchanged With Israel

NC130520 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2210 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Geneva, 13 May (MENA) — Egyptian and Israel exchanged memorandums today at the Geneva headquarters of the arbitration panel dealing with the Tabah problem. The exchange took place at an arbitration panel meeting today under the chairmanship of Swedish judge (Gunnar Lagargin).

Egypt submitted a comprehensive memorandum to the panel — including all legal, historical, and geographical documents and records substantiating Egypt's position on the Tabah dispute.

The Egyptian defense panel, comprising several jurists and experts including Dr Wahid Ra'fat, had prepared this exhaustive memorandum and its supporting documents. The 450-page memorandum has a 1,000-page supplement attached to it, which includes the various documents and records relating to the Tabah issue. Egypt also submitted an atlas to the arbitration panel in Geneva today along with a number of maps confirming Egypt's position on the Tabah issue.

The Egyptian side to this arbitration panel meeting is represented by Dr Nabil al-'Arabi, director of the Foreign Ministry's Legal Department, and some members of the Egyptian defense panel.

It is worth noting that according to the dates mentioned in the arbitral compromis, each party will answer the other's memorandum at an arbitration panel meeting scheduled for mid-October this year.

27 Soldiers Sentenced for Roles in 1986 Riots

NC132112 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] The Egyptian paper *Al-Ahram* reported today that Egypt's High Court for State Security sentenced 27 police conscripts to 3 years imprisonment yesterday after convicting them of involvement in last February's riots in an Egyptian city. It should be noted that 107 people were killed and more than 700 others were wounded during these disturbances.

Abu Basha Leaves for Treatment in Texas

NC121358 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1315 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Cairo, 12 May (MENA) — Major General Hasan Abu Basha, former interior minister, left Cairo for the United States at 1415 today for further medical treatment. Abu Basha left on a private plane with medical equipment aboard. He was accompanied by his eldest daughter and her husband, Dr Husam al-Badrawi.

Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of cabinet affairs and minister of state for administration development, saw Abu Basha off at the airport. Dr 'Ubayd stated that President Mubarak had given orders for Abu Basha to be taken to the largest center for bone surgery in the United States, in Houston.

IBRD Offers $1 Billion in Loans for Electricity

NC121227 Cairo MENA in English 0936 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Cairo 12 May (MENA) — The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) agreed to offer $1 billion to the Electricity Ministry to help finance the setting up of power generating stations, transformers and distributing networks during the first 3 years of the second 5-year plan, beginning from July.

Minister of Electricity Mahir Abazah, said today that a joint delegation of IBRD experts comprising technicians and economists, will arrive in the Egyptian capital in the first week of June, to agree over ventures to be financed and discuss the use of the loans preliminary to their final ratification by the IBRD Board of Directors.

GDR To Loan $100 Million

JN131710 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 12 May 87 p 1

[Text] The GDR Government has agreed to extend a $100 million soft loan to Egypt to finance the electricity projects contained in the second 5-year plan, which will begin in July. Following his meeting with GDR Ambassador Wolfgang Schuessler in Cairo yesterday, Minister of Electricity Mahir Abazah said his talks with the ambassador dealt with bilateral cooperation in the field of electricity. He noted that the GDR Government pledged to provide Egypt with 220 kilovolt electric transformers, 66 kilovolt cables, and power lines. The ambassador said he discussed and the minister had discussed the projects implemented during the first 5-year plan and the joint projects that can be executed in the second 5-year plan. He said his country is pleased to cooperate with Egypt in implementing the latter's independent ventures and said there is full confidence in Egypt's economy.

King Husayn of Jordan Arrives, Meets With Saddam

JN131928 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of Jordan arrived in Baghdad on an official visit and was accorded an official welcome. President Saddam Husayn headed those who welcomed him. Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Staff General'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information; Ahmad Husayn, head of the president's office; the president's secretary; and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman participated in the welcome.

After a short rest during which President Saddam Husayn and his brother Jordan's King Husayn ibn Talal exchanged cordial messages, a meeting took place between President Saddam Husayn and his brother King Husayn ibn Talal. They discussed the close brotherly relations between the two fraternal countries and the Arab situation in general. The meeting was attended on the Iraqi side by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Staff Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information; Ahmad Husayn, head of the president's office; the president's secretary; and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman. The meeting's Jordanian participants were Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i; royal court chief Marwan al-Qasim; Court Minister 'Adnan abu 'Awdah; Staff General Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, Armed Forces commander in chief; and the Jordanian charge d'affaires in Amman.

The president hosted an iftar banquet in honor of his brother His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal. It was attended by members of the two sides, the RCC members, ministers, and a number of officials.

Saddam Writes on Religious Political Movements

JN121754 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0615 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Baghdad, 12 May (INA) — President Saddam Husayn says in an article published by the Iraqi papers today that since the beginning the Arabs have understood that for the most part religion means rejecting what is bad and accepting what is good for society in an effort to achieve social justice.

In his article, which is entitled "Religious Political Movements and Movements Operating Under the Cover of Religion," the president added that the Arabs also understand that the call to obliterate and kill peculiarities — including national and pan-Arab peculiarities — is a deceptive call whose aim is unleashing non-Arabs against Arabs.

The president also said that the role of Al-Shu'ubiyah [a movement within the early Islamic commonwealth of nations that refused to recognize the Arabs' privileged position] against the Arabs appears when Arabs seem to abandon their pioneering role and also when they assume this role. In the first situation, the Shu'ubis come forward to fill the vacuum, while in the second, they come forward to resist the leading Arab current and role.

The following is the text of the president's article:

When it is decided to seriously tackle any social, political, or any other phenomenon or subject, whether on the individual or collective level, and whether it falls within a person's public social responsibility or official governmental responsibility, it is essential to first correctly understand what is to be dealt with or tackled based on existing circumstances and not how the person himself wishes them to be. Thus, understanding different situations and their objectives, courses of development, and requirements must be objective and not entail assuming results according to the personal whims or circumstances of the persons concerned. The state's position and responsibility must be to distinguish between what falls under propaganda and the improvised handling of affairs, and what falls under correct understanding and managing matters within the overall strategy and according to the appropriate means to be used within a certain specific period or an entire historical phase.

From this essential brief preamble we proceed to the topic of our discussion, entitled: Religious Political Movements or Movements Operating Under the Cover of Religion in our Arab Homeland.

To start, we must not forget that our Arab nation is a religious nation which has been entrusted with a religious mission or missions, headed by the Islamic religion, to all peoples on earth. This mission is old, not new, and also came from God, not a human being. It is not based on the desire of this or that person, and is also a permanent, not temporary mission. This is clear when God Almighty made the Arab homeland the place in which He revealed all heavenly missions and the abode of his prophets and emissaries. The Holy Koran, which is the last revealed book, gives the Arabs a leading role in conveying religion and its meanings to all of mankind whether through preaching, jihad, or setting an illuminating and effective example for the peoples around them. In view of these facts, religion in the Arab homeland is not an ordinary thing as is the case elsewhere, but is instead the core of Arab concerns. The Arab believes in it and seeks to preserve it and eliminate any manifestations conflicting with its substance whether in thought or behavior.

But in addition to this, the Arab understands religion more correctly than any non-Arab pretender, no matter how devoted he is to his call. There is much evidence for this in the Holy Koran, the traditions, and the statements of the followers.

Thus, the Arabs understand that God, who asked messengers and prophets to convey messages and who sent heavenly books, has ordained there will be no more heavenly books or prophets. Consequently, the individual's level of understanding, his dealings with others, and his role have been refined in a manner allowing him to perform his duties through the directives and guidelines provided by the prophets and messengers. This is made possible due to the positive human characteristics of both society and community. The invidiual has thus begun to behave in a manner that enjoys God's satisfaction. Man's refined behavior has thus been displayed in his dealings with fellow human beings in terms of rights, obligations, and other issues, and also in terms of his relationship with God and things. All this is made possible through the interpretations inspired by requirements necessi-

tated by the development of life and its laws, or by religious values and the ideals enshrined in these values.

Since the beginning, the Arabs have understood that religion largely means rejecting what is bad and accepting what is good for society in an effort to achieve social justice.

They [the Arabs] have dealt with life, their religious duties within the family and society, and with themselves as well as with God on the basis of these concepts. This is why the Arabs did not mix their religious faith and their pioneering role on one hand and such claims by non-Arabs, among them the Ottomans, who view religion as a guise and who effectively colonized the Arabs in the name of Islam, on the other; thus, the famous Arab revolution to rid themselves of Ottoman rule, despite protestations of contradictions between the revolution and religion. The Arabs have understood the call to obliterate certain peculiarities — including national and pan-Arab pecularities — as a deceptive call aiming to unleash non-Arabs against Arabs, rob them of their religious and humanitarian role, and destroy their pioneering personality within the Islamic nation — which is not in conflict with the Arab nation since the Islamic nation's essence is shared religion and the Arab nation's essence is a pan-Arab identity.

These and other concepts including a misconception of religion and the role of the Arabs therein have, since the dawn of Islam, been the focus of tugs-of-war and ups and downs in the history of religious trends. It is natural that the Shu'ubiyah trends should find a place in this field when the Arab role, as a sound understanding of religion, takes a back seat. Therefore, we should not make the mistake of seeing religious movements and th e in the Arab world using the cover of religion as resulting from the influence of Khomeyni or Khomeyniism, since nothing is further from the truth. At the same time, ascribing phenomenons to the wrong causes creates misconceptions and consequently leads to an irrational handling of the problem. Peoples and nations should be reminded of their religious and mundane duties, even though discussing the human rights issue would open the door to wide interpretations we must not go into. So let us forget about this and address the relationship between the religious, political movements, and the Arab regimes, and seek antidotes to the sinister ones.

The political-religious movements in the Arab homeland were active and acquired some influence in the twenties and thirties, but their role shrank in the fourties and fifties except in Egypt and Sudan.

A well-known fact is that the Arabs' opposition to Ottoman persecution and their rebellion against Ottoman rule were carried out for national motives and not religious ones, as well as for other reasons we have not time to discuss here.

In general, the battle of liberation against the Ottoman persecution, the Ottoman Empire, and against the French and the British in the Arab East took place under the banner of national sentiments and pan-Arab affiliation, and not under religious slogans — although the religion embraced by the French and the British is not that of the overwhelming majority of the Arabs. However, the battle of liberation against French and Italian colonialism in the Arab Maghreb was tinted with religious motives in addition to national and pan-Arab sentiments. Religious and national sentiments were the dominant factors in Algeria, and the Arabs' role, and particularly Egypt's, in assisting Algeria's attainment of idependence were more pronounced than in assisting Morocco, Libya, and Tunisia to achieve independence.

Here we must emphasize two basic facts no Arab official should ignore: The role of al-Shu'ubiyah against the Arabs appears when the Arabs seem to abandon their pioneering role, and also when they assume this role. In the first situation, the Shu'bis come forward to fill the vacuum, and in the second, they come forward to resist the leading Arab role. Ancient and contemporary Arab history is replete with instances substantiating what we say. Therefore, the Arabs must consider this as part of the negative factors they must confront if they decide to give up their leading role. Thus, we can accurately assess — and put into their true perspective — some of the religious trends or trends which use religion as a cover in the Arab homeland and deal with them accordingly.

Here we must clearly state that every option has its positive and negative aspects. Therefore, we must not imagine Arabs' attempts to build their national states and choose the course of modern technology for attaining progress can take place without sacrifices. Some ordinary citizens may have lopsided perceptions of concepts which will make them unable to understand some of the changes carried out by the ruling regime and which are dictated by circumstances or development. Some rulers may also have lopsided perceptions of things that will make them unable to establish a practical and principled balance between the establishment of a modern state -- its requisites, needs, and circumstances -- and the needs and concepts of the majority of the people.

In modern times, the only opportunity the Arabs have had to tackle the political-religious trends as realities that must be understood within their true pespective have been when they established their modern states and when they became responsible for running their affairs. Only then did they become responsible according to the political-religious trends for the mistakes and deviations of the state or those of society. Before this, those who were responsible for these mistakes and deviations were foreigners such as the Turks, the British, the French, and the Italians. As for the deviations, mistakes, and sins that once apeared in society, the foreigners used to associate these with state officials in an attempt to drive a wedge between the people and that era's rulers. According to them [foreigners], the responsibility for these mistakes, deviations, and sins had to be assumed by the rulers. We must not forget that most of the time frustration leads to despondency and alienation or to an unbalanced reaction. Deciding on ideological alternatives and action theories capable of assimilating the laws of subsistence and its conditions is not easy.

On this basis, whenever a specific school of thought or political course with well-defined objectives and means fails, some segments of society usually take refuge in generalities or in values which transcend the state of affairs that caused the frustration, even if these values are not the means that will lead to salvation.

Suffice it to create some hope to overcome the sense of frustration even temporarily by sticking to dreams and spiritual values. We find this not only with rejectionists who do not have sound alternatives, but also with people who are frustrated politically and intellectually, and even with those who experience personal and social frustrations. Our society is full of such examples; namely, the Arabs' struggle has been mainly based on the slogan of Arabism. The Arabs waged a struggle to get rid of the foreigner or to build their modern states. The Zionist entity has been their main national challenge, and Egypt and 'Abd al-Nasir were their main symbol for facing that challenge. This picture was shaken in the eyes of the majority unable to find salvation in their minds, deeds, or consciences when they believed confrontation under these slogans had failed. Some people withdrew into their own shells due to their frustration, expecting salvation outside themselves through a change in circumstances and the situation. Others began to look for another path they believed to be paved but not tried; this path was Marxism and its communist systems. They opted for this path after comparing the Soviet and U.S. positions during the 1967 war and the setback that followed. The Soviet Union adopted the correct position by supporting the Arabs, while the United States supported Israel.

Some people also turned toward religion when they imagined pan-Arabism and its system were defeated. This religious movement reappeared in the Arab homeland with remarkable political effectiveness, particularly after the 1973 war, and after the failure of Marxism and other parties' attempts to achieve any goal or attract a large sector of society. Moreover, efforts to build modern Arab states depended only on the educated minority after independence. The efforts to promote economy, science, and technology have also increased the technocrat's role, concepts, and values in these states at the expense of principled and popular concepts and values. Therefore, the Arab regimes could not assume a balanced position between two sides: what should be and the need for an active interaction with the simplicity of the broad masses' trends, aspirations, and problems; and the conversion of this interaction into a daily exercise whose meanings are interpreted into goals, means, and visions associated with government affairs, the way to build a state, and the state's responsibilities and structure, and public and private behavior.

Thus, we realize the gap between the broad masses and the elite and between the regimes and their organs on one hand, and the broad masses on the other. [sentence as received] Swindle and rebellion, regardless of their purposes and means, often find a fertile climate in obscurity or among the simple masses. Therefore, a large sector of our Arab masses may revolt on the basis of a sound vision. The others may revolt on another basis because they have no choice but to object, sometimes violently, even if they do not believe in the existing alternative or do not see any alternative and it, as we stated, they have no choice but to object in this manner.

The Arab ruling regimes managed to coexist, tame, or discover means of combating many of the veteran political movements in the Arab homeland. For me this presents a certain type of masses who reject the idea of establishing either a new type of organization or getting rid of the concentration of government organs on the restricted by going to what is general. [sentence as received] Thus, the religious current has become the required general for the earlier-mentioned reasons.

The shah of Iran did not only commit the deviation for which he deserves to be held accountable in terms of responsibility and its practice, but he also committed a grave mistake in imagining he could establish a modern state patterned on borrowed Western ideas, behavior, and dealings, thereby isolating himself with a Western attitude and behavior alien to his people.

He blundered further when he surrendered or handed key positions to a group of technocrats graduated from Western schools and adopted their ideologies and behavior, believing this group alone could realize his dreams.

Engrossed in economic development, the shah failed to understand that development cannot stand on one leg alone and that, if it is based on economics and science alone, it will perish and deteriorate in addition to the social, psychological, and cultural bases of the community. Furthermore, what can the effect be if impairment is inherent in the view toward economic development itself?

This one-sided view toward development and speedy reconstruction led to further lethal diseases in the Iranian community at a time when further obliquities were added to the ruler's maladies. Consequently, the gap between the peoples and the rulers widened, and the people isolated the minority or the minority isolated itself in the social, economic, political, cultural, and psychological life. This led to contradictions and conflicts between the minority,represented by those benefiting in one way or another from the regime and its interests, and the deprived, downtrodden majority of people. Moreover, measures of modernization which the shah adopted or intended to adopt clashed with the men of religion, their way of dealing with the people, and their management of religious establishments in Iran, which have a special nature. Thus, the hopes, desires, interests, and objectives of the political movements, the people, and the men of religion were united once again against the shah of Iran. Moreover, the escalating conflict between the majority and minority was developing into a class struggle — a condition which filled the United States and the entire Western strategy with extreme fears over the future fall of Iran under the influence of communism and the Soviet Union — and generated serious thinking about getting rid of the shah. This is in addition to other considerations concerning their strategy in the region for which now there is no room. What worsened matters was that the shah encouraged movements and groups which were considered heretical by the religion of the people's majority.

It is useful here today that the largely religious struggle against the shah's rule falls within the general interpretation of what we previously mentioned, despite the peculiarity of the Iranian community, which differs from the peculiarity of the Arab homeland. A contradiction occurred between the people, the majority, and the rulers over the latter's ways and objectives for ruling, and over belief in God or the way to express this belief in a manner conflicting with the people's behavior and thinking. That is why the Iranian revolution took the course it has taken.

When we say Islam is a revolution we do not only mean in terms of mankind's relations on earth and correcting the deviant course of these relations, but also in terms of correcting the deviant and infidel course regarding the relationship between man and God. Therefore, the Islamic religion as well as the revealed religions did not only appear as a new state to rejuvenate religions and to practice religious rites in accordance with the new religion, which is in harmony with the development achieved by mankind, but also as a revolution since it resolved matters related to the relationship between God and man.

When theocracies were established, the peoples and nations under these governments were in a better position in terms of human, social, cultural, economic, and political conditions. Above all, they were in a better position in terms of belief and following the right path after they were lost and infidel. All theocracies in the world and in the Arab world ruled various nations only in light of this understanding.

One of the facts that should be defined is that the deviation of the ruler and his regime is not sufficient in itself to establish a theocracy that the majority of the people in this age can accept. The deviation of the majority of the people from the right path and from the unity of God also makes it necessary to establish a theocracy.

In addition, the deviation of the ruler and the governed people is not sufficient to make people accept the idea of one government for different peoples and nations in the same way they accept it when the deviation reaches the relationship between God and man. This deviation is represented in the rejection of God as well as the religion that guided people to God and saved peoples and nations from suppression and from devastating social and political lines; this is what happened when the first Muslim Arab state was established in the Medina, Damascus, Baghdad, and Andalusia. The deviation of this or that ruler from the right path does not necessarily mean the departure of confrontation and of the remedy from the methods and objectives of the age. Establishing an alternative ruling system on the ruins of the rejected regime or replacing a ruler with another ruler who can respond to the people's aspirations and ambitions are among the methods used in that age.

The activities under religious slogans and calls can topple some political systems as a method used by the public after the elite fails to do so. [sentence as received] However, things will definitely differ when some of the public becomes the elite, and when the opponents become rulers required to deal with life and religion not on the basis of the public concepts which formerly rejected the situation. The road toward what is required must be clarified.

At the same time, the relationship between religion and man must be explained according to the religion's legal provisions and with the men of religion's explanations. Relations among people and between people and their rulers; the ruler and the system of ruling; the economy; financial resources; science; technology; inheritance; woman, her role, and how to deal with her; and worship must also be explained.

In such a situation, private endeavor would replace the general endeavor, and matters would be determied by a mere effort by this or that person within the one sect and the one religion. This would lead to giving a free hand to diversified endeavors and to disputes possibly bordering on actual fighting once politics interfered with religion and reached its high pedestal. Thus, the one sect would evolve into several sects or groups, and religion would become involved in private and public affairs until we ultimately would have a new unheavenly religion. Therefore, religious slogans and politics operating under the cover of religion could lead to the toppling of this or that regime in the Arab homeland and the Islamic states in general.

Although we cannot state that not all those engaged in such trends are remote from religion or lack good intentions, we can however unequivocally state that such a trend is fraught with major crimes and sins, especially movements operating under the cover of religion. [sentence as received] This applies to the Al-Shu'ubiyah movement, whose religious links are temporary and solely geared toward achieving a political objective; namely, overthrowing a certain regime or regimes. If, for the sake of argument, this trend succeeded in overthrowing this or that regime but also failed to produce a successful and viable alternative, then the people would certainly resist that trend and its advocates.

This conclusion is not always correct except under certain conditions: primarily, the existence of a people who are mature and balanced in their view of matters and behavior, and regimes that are not deviant or corrupt. Not all the people, and under all conditions and circumstances, have a clear view of the alternative when they decide to get rid of the regime through revolution or a coup. In certain circumstances, some peoples may judge a regime to be unsuitable and believe there is no other way except revolution or a coup to get rid of it. Here particularly lies some of the danger of certain Arab and Islamic societies in being exposed to shake-ups and instability as well as infiltration by movements with Shu'ubist tendencies. It might be difficult for certain public circles in certain circumstances to pinpoint such Shu'ubist trends working against the Arab identity and its principles and values, regardless of this or that ruler and this or that regime.

Therefore, the only path before us is the one in which the people, the regime, and the leadership are united, not on the basis of circumstancial confrontation or dangers, but on the basis of real faith in this course — a path which puts the ruler in the place of the servant even if the ruler happens to be leader or supreme commander; a path in which everyone cooperates in building their societies and states according to balanced views and methods that are based on reality, not wishful thinking. Moreover, objectives and methods must be clear to everyone to avoid deviations and errors. Justice must eliminate the bad and mean, and only what is good and beneficial must remain. At any rate, the national and pan-Arab path of salvation based on the above considerations and strong faith is the new path for achieving the nation's happiness and well-being, unifying its will, and expressing its spirit. It is also the path for coping with any deviation and danger. Whenever this path and its conceptions disappear or are disrupted, the Arab will find other paths and means, even among those previously rejected.

King Husayn Returns From 'Short' Baghdad Visit
JN140533 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0500 GMT 14 May 87

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn and the members of his delegation returned home last night after a short working visit of several hours to Iraq yesterday afternoon. During his stay, his majesty held talks with His Excellency Iraqi President Saddam Husayn as part of the process of coordination and consultation between the two leaders.

Jordanian representatives led by His Majesty King Husayn and the Iraqi side headed by His Excellency President Saddam Husayn took part in an expanded meeting. The participants discussed ways of clearing the air in the Arab world and bolstering Arab solidarity. They also conducted a thorough examination of the Arab situation, developments in the Iraq-Iran war, and the close and special relations between the two sisterly countries. [passage omitted]

Cables Iraqi President
JN140711 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0500 GMT 14 May 87

[Cable from King Husayn to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn released on 14 May following the king's return to Amman]

[Text] Your Excellency Brother President Saddam Husayn, may God protect you. On my return home, I am pleased to offer Your Excellency, my brother, as well as your comrades and the fraternal Iraqi people, my sincerest greetings and deepest thanks and appreciation for the warm, genuine hospitality and for the brotherly feelings that prevailed at our meeting during our short working visit to lofty, glorious Baghdad.

Our meeting, as well as our talks, were part of the process of coordination and consultation. They also reflect our shared determination to make honest efforts to unify Arab ranks in the service of collective national action. This, in turn, will permit us to tackle all the challenges facing our nation. The discussions were a bright and inspiring landmark after we were familiarized with the strength of the Iraqi battlefront in the face of Iran's aggression, a front molded by the bold hands of the men of the Iraqi Armed Forces and the spirit of steadfastness and sacrifice that characterizes the heroic Iraqi people under your leadership. May God grant us success for the good of our nation. May God support you and guide your steps on the road to victory and peace.

[Signed] Your brother, Husayn.

AL-DUSTUR Praises Husayn-Mubarak Meeting
JN131109 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
13 May 87 pp 1, 23

[Editorial: "The Husayn-Mubarak Meeting"]

[Text] The short working visit made by His Majesty King Husayn yesterday to meet with his brother President Husni Mubarak was part of our cordial fraternal relations. The firm pillars of its foundation were set by a tradition of consultation and coordination between the two political leaders of Jordan and Egypt.

This latest meeting between the two Arab leaders has come amid persistent moves and efforts by several regional and international parties to hasten the convention of an international conference for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Jordan and Egypt are undoubtedly among the countries most concerned with the convocation of such a conference. After all, their leaders have worked together over the past 2 years in several capitals to rally the greatest possible international support for such a gathering. The idea of its earliest possible convention won international unanimity recently.

Hence the importance of such meetings between His Majesty King Husayn and President Mubarak and the significance of continuing consultations and coordination between the two Arab capitals, which have shouldered a special burden throughout the history of the Palestinian question.

In view of all this, and due to the lack of collective Arab action, King Husayn's intensive meetings with brother leaders of fraternal Arab states led by President Mubarak, have provided a practical alternative for continuous moves on the pan-Arab level. Such action is intended to maintain a minimum degree of Arab relations so as to meet the challenges of this phase and its political exigencies.

The latest meeting between King Husayn and President Mubarak is another step toward enhancing cooperation and strengthening mutual understanding between the leaders of Jordan and Egypt. In addition, it is a step toward facing the persistent challenges of the age, especially that of eliminating the final obstacles impeding the convocation of an international Middle East peace conference.

Bank Warns Against Investing With Foreign Firms
JN121950 Amman Television Service in English
1900 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] The Central Bank of Jordan has warned citizens against investing their funds with foreign companies offering high yields. An official source at the Central Bank cited relevant correspondence received by citizens lately, and stressed that the risk element in such investments was high coupled with the risk of exchange rate fluctuations. The source cautioned citizens against dealings with such companies or their agents, which are not licensed to carry out such transactions in Jordan. He further stressed that any foreign investments should be sanctioned by the Central Bank and carried out through local banks and financial companies.

UN Troops in South Reportedly 'on Maximum Alert'

NC131453 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1430 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] According to an AFP report from the south, UNIFIL troops in southern Lebanon have been put on maximum alert since yesterday evening. The reports states that the UNIFIL soldiers, who are wearing bullet-proof vests, are standing on alert behind sandbags, while others are carrying out thorough searches of the vehicles that pass through their barricaded positions. Citing informed sources, AFP says this move is linked to recent threats that UNIFIL received. However, UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel declined to comment on the report.

Israelis Fire on UNIFIL Posts

NC131722 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1530 GMT 13 May 87

[Excerpts] A UNIFIL source has said an Israeli unit in the Tallat 'Alman area fired four tank shells at an Irish UNIFIL post on the Al-Saluqi Valley Road between Qabrikha and Majdal Silm last night, destroying a good part of the position. Meanwhile, agent Lahd militiamen posted on Tallat al-Huqban fired on a Nepalese position in Kafra at dawn today. The Napalese troops returned the fire. [passage omitted]

According to reports from Al-'Urqub, an Israeli intelligence patrol passed through the Norwegian UNIFIL checkpoint on the Suq al-Khan axis and approached the Al-'Urqub area, which is under the Norwegian contingent's control. The members of the patrol toured the villages of Rashayya al-Fukhkhar, Kafr Shuba, and Al-Habbariyah for approximately 1 and 1/2 hours before heading back toward Marj 'Uyun.

Maj Gen Lahd, Israeli Officers Tour Jazzin Area

JN140908 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0500 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] Staff Major General Antoine Lahd, commander of the South Lebanese Army [SLA], has asserted that his promise regarding the return home of those deported from areas east of Sidon is firm. He stressed that Jazzin will remain free and steadfast, and declared that he does not need assistance from the north but is ready to extend aid to it.

This came during an inspection tour yesterday by Maj Gen Lahd, who was accompanied by General David Agmon, head of the Israeli Liaison Unit in Lebanon, and a group of Lebanese and Israeli officers. The tour included villages in the Jazzin area where these officers saw for themselves the situation of citizens who received Maj Gen Lahd. They also met with representatives of those who were deported from areas east of Sidon and other people in the region.

For his part, Gen Agmon asserted that the IDF will continue to help the SLA protect its areas of deployment, including Jazzin, which is an indivisible part of the border zone's security. This aid, he added, will also be available to the SLA to back its efforts to bring those deported from areas east of Sidon back home.

Butrus Returns From Damascus, Briefs Al-Jumayyil

NC131717 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Former Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus returned to Beirut today from Damascus following a 24-hour visit, during which he met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam to discuss current developments in Lebanon. Following his return from Damascus, Butrus briefed President al-Jumayyil on his talks with Syrian officials. The 12th round of Syrian-Lebanese talks will be held in Damascus tomorrow to complete the discussion of a formula for national accord and ways of introducing political reforms into the regime. Informed sources have described this coming round of talks as very important, adding that they will have an impact on the future of the accord and the resignation of Prime Minister Rashid Karami.

Soviet Official on 'Signs' of Conference Support

NC131155 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1045 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Vladimir Gudev, deputy chief of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Middle Eastern Countries Department [title as heard], who arrived in Beirut this morning, led off his agenda by meeting Ambassador Fu'ad Al-Turk, Foreign Ministry secretary general, in the presence of Soviet Charge d'Affaires Yuriy Suslikov.

Following the meeting, Gudev said he and Al-Turk exchanged views in a cordial atmosphere, adding that the two countries should occasionally discuss the various issues of common interest. This, Gudev said, is particularly true at the present time when more and more efforts are being made to bring peace to the Middle East. Gudev reiterated the view that Lebanon is one of the parties concerned with Middle East peace and, as such, it should participate in any future peace conference. As far as the conference is concerned, Gudev referred to recent signs that the regional and international atmosphere is becoming more conducive to its convocation.

Former President Sham'un Admitted to Hospital

NC131802 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Doctors supervising the treatment of former President Camille Sham'un have stated that the results of tests carried out indicate that his state of health is no cause for alarm. He became slightly ill earlier today and was taken to Al-Rum Hospital.

Syrian Force Mans Three New Posts in South Suburb

NC131529 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 13 May 87

[Statement by the Fifth Branch of the Amal Movement's Central Military Bureau]

[Text] Following contacts with the parties concerned, a force from the Syrian Arab Army took up the following three positions along the highway between Al-Shuwayfat and Madinat al-

Karami in the Al-Tiru area at 1330 today: The Al-Bisti-al-Shuwayfat Road intersection, the PSP checkpoint near the Al-Farruj Factory, and the Amal Movement checkpoint. It should be recalled that there are several factories in this area that employ thousands of workers. The operation was supervised by Amal Movement officials and Syrian Army officers and observers. As soon as the Syrians took up their positions, they banned all arms and gunmen from the region and started to search vehicles and facilitate citizens' travel. The officials in the area, as well as the factory workers and the owners of the industrial plants, have expressed their satisfaction with these measures.

Army Major Escapes Assassination Attempt in Al-Biqa'
NC131649 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that an attempt was made on the life of Army Major Jamil al-Sayyid at noon today while he was riding in his car to his home town of Al-Nabi Ayla in the Al-Biqa'. Shots were fired from an ambush on the main road. Although his aide was mortally wounded, Al-Sayyid, who is in charge of information in the Al-Biqa' area, escaped unscathed.

Source Details Deployment of 10,000 Palestinians
NC131217 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1115 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] A source close to Israeli intelligence said today that approximately 10,000 Palestinian fighters are currently in Lebanon. Of these, 3,500 are in the Sidon area opposite the Israeli-controlled security zone. The same source claimed that with 4,000 men, the Fatah movement has the largest contingent in Lebanon, with 2,000 fighters deployed in Sidon. In addition, 2,500 Palestinian fighters are in Beirut, with 1,500 belonging to Fatah.

The source added that 700 Palestinian fighters are deployed in Tripoli; 1,500 fighters from pro-Syrian organizations are present in the Al-Biqa' Valley; and 1,400 fighters are in the Al-Shuf and Al-Damur areas. The source pointed out that the fighters receive a monthly salary of about $300.

According to the Israeli source, the Shi'ite Amal Movement has 5,000 to 6,000 men in Lebanon, while Hizballah has 2,000 to 3,000 men, working in independent groups.

40 Pilots Said Executed After 10 May Coup Fails

NC131833 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1815 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Paris, 13 May (MENA) — An Arab diplomatic source announced in Paris this evening that the Syrian authorities foiled an attempted coup on Sunday [10 May] by a group of Syrian pilots.

The source stated that the Syrian authorities managed to foil the coup attempt before it was carried out, and that it was planned by a group of Syrian pilots stationed north of Damascus. The source added that 79 pilots have been arrested thus far and another 40 have been executed.

Lebanon Talks Resume; Khaddam Meets Junblatt

JN141424 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] The 12th round of Lebanese-Syrian talks began in Damascus at 1000 today. The 11th round was held on 10 and 11 May after a 44-day hiatus in the talks as a result of the Muslim side's opposition to the action paper put forward by President al-Jumayyil. The press, and above all *Al-Nahar*, has expressed optimism about the results of the current round in hopes it will pave the way for resolving the government crisis arising from Rashid Karami's resignation and for a Lebanese-Syrian summit that may be held next week.

We have learned from our correspondent in Damascus that the Lebanese presidential delegation, which includes Elie Salim, former foreign minister; Simon Qassis, chief of military intelligence; and Nicola Nasr, President al-Jumayyil's legal adviser, is taking new responses and proposals to Damascus, which it will discuss with the Syrians. The Syrian side comprises Faruq al-Shar', foreign minister, and Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, chief of Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon. The contents of the responses and proposals have not been disclosed.

In Damascus, today's edition of *Al-Ba'th* says Syria will spare no effort to put a final end to the abnormal situation in Lebanon. After all, such a situation has a negative effect on the Arab world and especially on the crucial conflict in the Middle East.

PSP leader Walid Junblatt discussed the situation in Lebanon with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus today. They gave special attention to the Lebanese Cabinet crisis and relations between Junblatt and both Karami and Nabih Birri. Junblatt's last visit to Damascus was on 25 March when he was received by 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

The Syrian forces in Beirut and its southern suburb are stationed in positions separating Junblatt's Druze militiamen from the Shi'ite forces of Nabih Birri, particularly in the Spiro triangle, to prevent the recurrence of bloody clashes between the two sides. The advance of Syrian forces into Beirut's southern suburb is continuing, albeit slowly, to avoid any appearance of a provocation.

Al-Shar' Receives Message From Greek Counterpart

JN131703 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Damascus, 13 May (SANA) — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received a written message from Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias today on bilateral relations and on Greece's concern for continuing and developing these ties in all fields. Konstandinos Yeoryiou, Greece's deputy foreign minister, handed Al-Shar' the message during a meeting here today.

The Greek foreign minister affirmed in his message the importance of Syria's basic role in the region, expressing his conviction that it must play an effective part to resolve regional problems. Several EEC member countries share this belief. The Greek foreign minister noted that Israel's complete withdrawal from all occupied Arab territory and guarantees of the Palestinian people's rights constitute two basic elements in any just solution to the Middle East problem. He explained that Greece believes the international conference should have an essential role, and not simply a ceremonial one.

For his part, Al-Shar' praised the cordial relations between Syria and Greece, confirming Syria's desire to continue reinforcing and developing these relations in all sectors. Al-Shar' praised Greece's postive stand on Arab issues, particularly within the the EEC. Al-Shar' asserted Syria's readiness to cooperate with any EEC country that takes objective positions on these issues.

Shamir, Peres Questioned on Political Situation

Shamir Interview

TA131936 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 13 May 87

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent Yoram Ronen at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem on the "evening" of 13 May — recorded]

[Text] [Ronen] Mr Prime Minister, legally speaking there is no Cabinet decision against the international conference. Shim'on Peres has announced that he will continue to work in favor of this conference. Why did you prevent a decision in today's Inner Cabinet meeting to the effect that no action should be taken for an international conference?

[Shamir] In fact, the Inner Cabinet decided not to accept the proposal by the vice prime minister on Israel's participation in an international conference. Even if we do not indulge in excessive formalities, we should see the situation as it was. At the end of the discussion, when an equal number of votes emerged for and against this proposal, Mr Peres announced he was not submitting his proposal for a vote, namely, that he was withdrawing it. As he put it, there was no point to put the proposal to a vote because he saw five votes in favor and five votes against. However, according to regulations, when a tie of votes emerges, this means that the proposal was not accepted. Thus, the conclusion is that neither Mr Peres nor anyone else has a mandate to handle the international conference issue on behalf of the government.

[Ronen] But why did you not officially sanction the decision by submitting to a vote a proposal stating that the international conference issue should not be dealt with?

[Shamir] The moment I submitted my proposal, it would have likewise fallen through. Therefore I had to settle for having no vote on the proposal raised by the vice prime minister.

[Ronen] In this situation the Inner Cabinet's decision has two interpretations. Shim'on Peres says he will continue to act on behalf of the international conference and will meet with Secretary of State Shultz, for one, and discuss this with him. How would you treat Peres' efforts to continue down the road he has embarked upon?

[Shamir] I would treat his actions as ones made without government approval. All Peres' interlocutors will know that Mr Peres is not talking on behalf of the government. This should be clear. All the guesses pertaining to the Inner Cabinet sessions concerned the number of votes in favor and against this issue. The Alignment members spread rumors that I would be surprised, as the debate would end with eight votes in favor of Peres' proposal and two against it. Finally, there were five in favor, the Alignment members' votes, and five against. The conclusion then is that the proposal fell, was not accepted. This is not the government's policy.

[Ronen] In other words, Mr Peres' talks in favor of the international conference will be interpreted by you as an action against the government.

[Shamir] As an action which has no backing nor authorization by the government.

[Ronen] Mr Prime Minister, the Labor Party today called on you to resign, leading to the resignation of the entire government. Why not open this issue which is so vital to our lives to a decision by the people?

[Shamir] Look, there have been several crises in this government, and we resolved and overcame them without going to elections. If after each caprice or move by either side that is not accepted by the government we ran for elections, how would we look?

[Ronen] However, this crisis is a little different, and the question is whether it is possible to continue to maintain the national unity government when it is speaking in two voices, pulling in two different directions, and moving from one crisis to another. Can this go on for another 18 months?

[Shamir] From now on it will not speak in two voices as it is clear that the decision that was made is binding on everyone. Nobody can today say that the Israeli Government has not yet decided. It has decided. There is no majority. There is no decision on Israel's participation in an international conference. Besides, there were crises in the past. Furthermore, there have already been decisions which were not accepted in this Inner Cabinet, as well as decisions which were accepted contrary to the will of some of the Inner Cabinet members. What happened in those cases? People accepted the Inner Cabinet's decision. There is no other way. What are there votes for? Why is there an Inner Cabinet?

[Ronen] But a vote did not take place, and it may not be hypothetical to assume that the vice prime minister will continue to talk and act on behalf of the international conference?

[Shamir] As far as I am concerned the situation is clear. There are five votes in favor and five against, and according to our regulations this means that the vice prime minister's proposal was not accepted. No verbal tricks will change this situation.

[Ronen] Mr Prime Minister, do you believe that this situation of an eternal tie can last, that this impossibility of making practical decisions can go on? An outstanding example now is that of appointing a new ambassador to the United States, and there are surely more instances concerning major issues that are hard to decide.

[Shamir] Look, there will not be, nor has there been an eternal tie. There are numerous matters on which an agreement can and will be reached by all partners in the government. There are also matters on which votes are not necessarily divided according to partisan lines. This is in fact the meaning of a national unity government. I hope that tempers will cool, and if the Alignment members decided not to leave the government, this means they will have to fulfill their duties in it.

[Ronen] However, the Alignment members decided to act openly, using all means at their disposal, for early elections. This being so, it cannot be assumed that they will allow the government to carry on business as usual.

[Shamir] I very much hope that they will not succeed, that they will fail, get tired, and let go.

[Ronen] Do you believe, Mr Prime Minister, that it is a healthy situation when Rabbi 'Ovadya Yosef, or Rabbi Peretz, or Rabbi Shakh determine if there are to be early elections?

[Shamir] Well, this is democracy. This is Israel's election system. This is the coalition system. Two or four votes sometimes tip the scales in this system. There is no choice. This has happened in the past. This is the parliamentary history of the State of Israel. There is nothing new about it.

[Ronen] In other words, Likud's or Alignment's courting of parties such as SHAS [Sephardi Torah Guardians] seems to you a natural matter that should be tolerated.

[Shamir] I am not thrilled about it of course, but still, it does happen that certain parties have greater influence at times.

[Ronen] Perhaps it is a little strange that, in a government which musters 97 Knesset members, the bargaining power of the small parties is even bigger.

[Shamir] This happens only during crises. This is not the case when all is well.

[Ronen] Do you believe, Mr Prime Minister, that it will be possible to return Rabbi Peretz of SHAS to the Cabinet?

[Shamir] I wanted to do so all along. I did not want him to leave the government in the first place. In my opinion he need not have done so either, since he knew in advance what rules govern those issues that trouble him, that trouble us all, in fact. I believe his place is in the government.

[Ronen] Are you prepared to meet him half way? Are you prepared to meet his demands regarding the laws on conversion to Judaism?

[Shamir] Look, there are matters on which we can agree, and there are matters on which we disagree; but I am sure a solution can be found.

[Ronen] Do you, Mr Prime Minister, support the deal that was struck last night, if I am not mistaken, whereby Knesset Member Abu Hatzera was guaranteed a slot on the Likud's Knesset list in return for his promise that...

[Shamir, interrupting] No deals have been made yet. I do not know why these kinds of things have to be called deals to begin with. Generally speaking, when crises erupt, and this is an old fact...[changes thought] I remember how the former finance minister, the late Pinhas Sapir, used all means at his disposal — and he had many of those — in order to gain a majority of votes under certain conditions. We do not do this, but there are situations in which one has to do this.

[Ronen] Have David Levi and Roni Milo obtained anything from Aharon Abu Hatzera, this same Abu Hatzera who caused the toppling of the former Likud government?

[Shamir] I do not yet know what was spread and publicized. I do not know who and what was involved. However, Abu Hatzera is a Knesset member and has a vote in the Knesset. One must not forget that.

[Ronen] Namely, this move or deal with Abu Hatzera was not with your knowledge or approval?

[Shamir] No, there are no such things. However, this may be something that has not been completed yet.

[Ronen] Mr Prime Minister, both the Likud and you personally have greatly escalated the tone of your attack on the Alignment and Shim'on Peres since yesterday. You said that the international conference is the scheme of a single man which stems from greed for power. Is there indeed a hardening of the line against Shim'on Peres?

[Shamir] Look, there are no personal attacks here. All in all, my public war, my public struggle was against a political plan. I did not attack or curse anybody personally and am not interested in doing so. However, it was necessary, once and for all, end an intolerable situation in which a single person wanted to impose his ideas on the Israeli Government.

[Ronen] And this does not amount to a personal attack, Mr Shamir?

[Shamir] Look, it is sometimes difficult to precisely distinguish between a man who advocates a certain idea and the idea itself. However, I must say it was absolutely necessary to make this move, which would finally end this matter, and inform the Israeli public as well as the international community that the Israeli Government does not accept this proposal by Shim'on Peres on an international conference. I think I succeeded in that.

[Ronen] Mr Prime Minister, you have repeated in recent weeks that this proposal, which talks of PLO participation and of renewed diplomatic relations with the USSR, stands no chance of being accepted by the government in any case. Why did you then not allow Peres to continue to check matters out on this proposal which was anyway doomed to failure, and then you would not have been accused of foiling peace?

[Shamir] Look, the very activity on behalf of this plan has caused a great deal of damage for Israel and for peace because if you go to Arab elements and tell them that Israel is prepared for an international conference, you keep away the option of direct negotiations. This has damaged us in the international arena as a whole. The entire world was amazed, wondering whether Israel had lost its mind: Israel had always been against such an international conference and in favor of the principle of direct talks and had suddenly withdrawn this position. This has also put the United States in an intolerable situation...

[Ronen, interrupting] But the United States was party to the joint Peres-Husayn document.

[Shamir] That is what I want to explain. The United States has all along opposed an international conference and favored direct negotiations. That was Shultz' famous formula, after all. This is

the name of the game, as he put it, nothing but direct negotiations. And suddenly, after Israel changed its position, the United States remained the only element that blocked the move. So, all the U.S. allies in the Arab world came to the United States and said: You are the most extreme anti-Arab element. Israel has already agreed and it is only you preventing salvation from an international conference. Then, the United States, with much hesitation, which still exists, and with a great reservations, said: We will examine the extent to which this move could lead to direct negotiations. That is the damage caused us by this move, by this plan, on the entire international arena. Therefore, it was necessary to stop it. I think we have stopped it, and I am proud we did.

[Ronen] Finally, Mr Prime Minister, do you view this crisis as a serious one or just another crisis that will pass like all the crises which preceded it in the history of the national unity government?

[Shamir] I very much hope that this crisis will pass and we will be able to deal with the real issues facing us today, the Israeli society and the State of Israel. I will dedicate more time now to the peace process. There are still spheres where a lot can be done in the spirit of direct negotiations, in the spirit of Camp David. There are things that need to be done and should be done in the economic and social spheres. We have not yet recovered economically. This should be accomplished. We have a long way to go with much to do before the end of the present government's term.

Peres Interview

TA132013 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 13 May 87

[Interview with Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, by Yoram Ronen and Yig'al Goren — live in studio]

[Text] [Ronen] Mr Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, you heard what was said by Yitzhaq Shamir, the prime minister. He said that from this day the government is speaking with one voice; it is stopping work for an international conference. Yig'al Goren added that people in Likud are saying that, if you work for an international conference, the prime minister might dismiss you. Will you continue to work for an international conference, despite all that?

[Peres] I agree that today is a different day. There are no differences of opinion over that. I do not agree that there is a different situation today. Neither Mr Shamir nor myself is above the law, nor are we above procedure. Both of us are subject to it to the same degree. Mr Shamir did not bring his proposal to a vote and so his proposal was not approved.

[Goren] Nor did you bring your proposal to vote.

[Peres] I did not, and in the situation of there being no decision to accept the document, there is also no decision to stop the negotiations over a peace conference, negotiations for peace. By the way, the argument is not over an international conference at all. The argument is how to reach direct negotiations with Jordan. All the talk that direct negotiations can be reached without moving through an international opening is, in my view, talk that is worthless. It has no grounds in reality. For the first time an opportunity that will not return has been created, one Israel has awaited for 39 years — and I spent 18 years of them with Ben-Gurion. There is this hard feeling today: if I had brought this proposal to David Ben-gurion, he would have embraced both the proposal and the one bringing it. But Yitzhaq Shamir [words indistinct due to interruption by interviewers] This is the first time that a proposal to arrive at direct negotiations with the State of Israel's most sensitive neighbor, without preconditions, has come along.

[Goren] Mr Peres, the question is, in view of the situation created and in view of today's Inner Cabinet session as understood by the prime minister, do you intend to continue? You are leaving for the United States tomorrow.

[Peres] I will work in accordance with the laws and the rules. I will not break any law or any rule.

[Ronen] Even when you see that the prime minister could dismiss you?

[Peres] First of all, the prime minister can dismiss me. He can do what he wants. That does not scare me. I am not working for a job or a seat; I am working for peace. It would be inconceivable for me... [changes thought] I received a government with 600 percent inflation. I received a government with an army in Lebanon. As they say, we were mired down in Lebanon with terrible internecine hatred and without a peace policy. What am I, someone who is living on charity? Excuse me. Was I not elected by law, correctly?

[Goren] The question is, sir, what will happen if the prime minister, as I said informs the United States, informs the world: If the foreign minister, the vice prime minister, comes to you on the matter of the international conference, you must know that he does not represent the Government of Israel. How can you work in such a situation?

[Peres] What has the prime minister to announce? Do they not know exactly what the situation is? Do they not know that half the government thinks one way and half the government thinks otherwise? What, are we living in conditions of secrecy? The genuine question facing the nation is not a matter of whether one obtains yet another Knesset member or not; the issue is weighty and important. The nation is split in two. The question we must decide is whether to conduct an election campaign for 18 months or elections for 1 month, as in England.

[Ronen] Mr Peres, do you favor a situation in which you will continue to sit in the government and, at the same time, work to overthrow the government?

[Peres] My dear friend, I am not taking upon myself the role of establishing a narrow-based government with Gush Emunim at its center. I do not think I was given a mandate for that. I think the alternative to the current government is elections as conducted in democratic countries. There is no shame in this. Nor do I dismiss the views of other people. I want to go to the nation for a decision. What disgrace is there in this? After all, there are two

views. The problem is not whether there are two voices. It is 50 percent, 50 percent in the Inner Cabinet, and the Inner Cabinet is the decisive body. Can this be glossed over? And, let us say, if Shamir informs Shultz of this, does Shultz not know of it? Do they not know exactly what happened in the Inner Cabinet today?

[Goren] Mr Peres, in view of the situation that has been created, and as we are talking of such a weighty, fateful issue, the peace process, would it not be worth your leaving the government, going into the opposition, and fighting for this weighty, important issue from there, rather than reaching a situation of bargaining with small parties over the peace process, which is so fateful?

[Peres] First of all, you are suggesting that we should establish a government that has no peace policy at all -- not only no peace policy, but a government with a policy supporting settlement. Should we sit in the opposition and talk about this? Have we been given a mandate for this? The elections concluded with the Alignment receiving 44 seats and the Likud 41 seats. There are basic guidelines in the national unity government. One of these is to expand the peace process, come to contacts with Jordan, hear what it has to propose, and discuss it. There is no ban today on continuing to work in that direction.

[Ronen] Apart from Mr Shamir, the prime minister?

[Peres] The prime minister cannot ban. The prime minister is the chairman at the meeting. He has the authority to dismiss ministers; let him. But as far as voting is concerned, the prime minister has a vote just like every other Cabinet member. If he does not bring something to a vote, there is no decision. A government is not run by a prime minister's announcements. A prime minister can only make an announcement after a decision is made.

[Goren] Mr Peres, when you came out on this move, you knew that the goal certainly was not in the bag. Did you assume, when you reached understandings with Jordan, with the United States, that there really was a chance to persuade the Likud to accept this program? Is there really any chance of the Tehiya voting against the Likud and in favor of early elections?

[Peres] Look, we have begun many things in similar situations. For instance, the Likud was against the withdrawal from Lebanon, and this includes Mr Shamir, who voted many times. By the way, when I was prime minister and I knew there was a situation of five against five in the Inner Cabinet, I was patient and did not bring matters to a decision, as in the Tabah issue, until we worked out a formula that facilitated a decision. And I did not threaten to dismiss anyone, although at that time the Foreign Ministry worked in a different way from me on the Tabah issue. But that is not important at this moment. Well, I was convinced that the proposal I brought, as many said... [changes thought] Let nobody tell stories here about damage in the United States. After all, the United States was at an international conference in 1973, with the participation of Israel. What is this? What damage is this, I would like to ask you?

[Ronen] At that time it was nevertheless over something more restricted.

[Peres] What difference does it make? What damage did it bring? In 1977 the Begin government decided on an international conference. What damage did it bring, I would like to understand? I believed, I still believe, and I think there are people in the Likud — I do not now want to say all the names -- in all the things...

[Goren, interrupting] So how was your evaluation mistaken?

[Peres] There is no mistake. I know it is a struggle. I could not examine the parliamentary situation before I had a formulated proposal in my hands. What did they say? Peres is talking about an egg that has not hatched. There is no Arab side to this matter. There is no U.S. side to this matter. Mr Shamir also said it. After all, Mr Shamir himself said he was not opposed to international accompaniment. He has forgotten. He said it in public. Four times I brought it to the Knesset. Why should I suddenly have imagined there would be a turn and the entire Likud would stand against it, as one man? When there was a vote of no confidence over the matter of the international forum, I insisted on it, not only that the no confidence motion be rejected, but that my announcement be approved by the Knesset, and the Likud faction voted in favor. What mistake did I make?

[Goren] That was 18 months ago, Mr Peres, but now that the egg has hatched and the move has been more or less closed, why did you not take one step forward and see to bracing yourselves with a majority of 61 votes in the Knesset for early elections?

[Peres] We were unable to. I could not begin dealing with the other parties over early elections before I had a proposal. But anyone who thinks there is a majority already against early elections does not know either the parliamentary or the national situation.

[Ronen] And today you are thinking of building a possibility...

[Peres, interrupting] I am convinced that a majority will be found in favor of early elections, for the benefit of the country and of peace.

[Goren] On what basis are you building this, on inside information or intuition?

[Peres] First of all, on the basis of experience, and also on the basis of inside information. Some of the figures I have seen here are not really acceptable to me. In my opinion, there are 59 members today with a potential for early elections. It will take some time until everyone meets...

[Goren, interrupting] And is your camp consolidated? After all, there are also two camps in it.

[Peres] Our camp is absolutely consolidated. I have never seen it more united.

[Ronen] Even with Yiga'el Hurwitz not supporting early elections? And Shoshana Arbeli-Mozlino?

[Peres] Yiga'el Hurwitz is not among the 59 I enumerated. He is outside them.

[Goren] I have not heard that the Progressive List for Peace is opposed.

[Ronen] It has said that an international conference is not an excuse to dissolve the government.

[Peres] I did not hear that. It met twice...

[Goren, interrupting] It was on the radio; I heard it on the radio.

[Peres] I did not hear.

[Goren] But, altogether, the camp...

[Peres, interrupting] But neither do I have anything...

[Goren, interrupting] But, altogether, do you assess it as a consolidated camp?

[Peres] A consolidated camp overall is inconceivable, just as it is inconceivable that Israel should remain without a defense policy, without an economic policy. Nor is it conceivable that Israel should remain without a peace policy. With all due respect to Mr Shamir, he will propose direct negotiations to Jordan? Well, is it the first time this has been proposed? After all, this has no chance in the world of succeeding. Here, for the first time, a genuine, unprecedented chance has been created, one that surprised the Americans, and it is not important what people here are trying to describe. There has been a genuine breakthrough in Israel, without the PLO, without imposition, without threats. And the Americans say: We are prepared to go out with you on this. We are prepared to sign a memorandum of understanding with you. When has this happened?

[Goren] The question is, what will happen to this chance in view of what happened today in the Inner Cabinet? That is to say, will Jordan, the United States, and other countries wait until you succeed in bringing about early elections to continue with the process?

[Peres] I do not know. I do not know. Look, I am not saying there are no risks in the current situation. I am sure the PLO will raise its head; I am sure there will be Soviet initiatives. People will say there is nobody with whom to talk and there is nothing to talk about. I have no doubts about this.

[Ronen] This being so, perhaps the situation is not such a healthy one. It will take several months before there is a decision on early elections. Another 6 months until a government is made up. Will you sit and wait?

[Peres] What can I do?

[Ronen] I do not know; I am asking you.

[Peres] I am doing what I can. I am living in a democratic country. I work democratically. I try to persuade, explain honestly. We are not fighting for seats here. I do not deal in threats. Nor am I afraid of threats. It is my duty to examine. At my age, in my situation, and with my experience, it is my duty, just as it is the duty of my colleagues, to promise the younger generation that people are sitting here and trying seriously to create a peace option and stop the bloodshed. It is not child's play, and it is not a matter of leading anyone astray. It is my duty, I am doing it willingly, and nothing will frighten me.

[Goren] Mr Peres, you are going to the United States tomorrow. What do you see as your main mission in the United States, on the political issue we are discussing, in view of the new situation?

[Peres] Yes, I am going to the United States, and I have very many commitments, also including matters involving the Negev, for example. Matters involving Ben-Gurion's anniversary. At this stage, I will explain, even though I have nothing to explain. The situation has been explained. Does anybody think they do not know what the situation is? That they do not know there is 50-50 in the Inner Cabinet? That they do not know there is 50-50 in the Knesset? That they do not know that the government, and, in this case, the prime minister, has not succeeded in creating a common denominator? This is the first time in 2 years and 6 months that there is no common denominator. When I was prime minister, I worked day and night, although most of the Likud ministers voted against the economic program, although most of the Likud ministers voted against the withdrawal from Lebanon. Despite the style of terrible incitement, I worked day and night to create a common denominator for the benefit of the country, its future, its correct administration. And, by the way, this is the prime minister's duty. There is no question of winning here. Who wins here? The winner can only be the country, and peace.

[Ronen] Mr Peres, we must conclude. I would like to ask you: The prime minister, as you saw, said this crisis will pass and you will be able to continue to work together. Will you, as head of the Alignment faction really let this government sit in peace...

[Peres, interrupting] The problem is not the government, Yoram. The problem is the peace process. We raised Israel's world prestige over the past 2 years to something it has never been. I want to ask: Have we removed any settlement? Did we give away a grain of soil? Did we surrender? Did we do anything to be ashamed of? And what if we had accepted their views, including that of the prime minister, about not withdrawing from Lebanon and we were still sunk in the Lebanese mire now? Would this have been better? The problem is not... [changes thought] I am not trying to make trouble in the government, and I am not looking for victories. I regard my movement's mission, and my own mission, as serving a peace process. I had a decisive part in building up Israel's defense force and I am not ridding us of defense assets. It is just because we succeeded in the defense assets that we are strong enough to create assets of peace. This is the issue and nobody will divert me to something else.

[Ronen] And do you believe, in one word, Mr Peres, that within 2 or 3 weeks, as you said to the Alignment faction yesterday, you will be able to bring about early elections?

[Peres] I do not know whether it will be in 2 or 3 weeks. It could be 1 or 2 months. This is not normal. This is not a matter that can be talked about with everyone when there are two clear, formulated views. What, can a person be gagged? Can you stop a person from having views? That is inconceivable. Therefore, in a democratic regime, when you come up against such a situation,

either the government and the prime minister succeed in creating a common denominator, and this is fine —,I did this for 2 years and 1 month and I say it was with absolute success -- or you go to the nation and ask it.

Rabin Calls for Elections To Decide Talks Issue

TA131727 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1605 GMT 13 May 87

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by 'Oded Ben-'Ami; time and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Rabin] With the situation created in the Inner Cabinet, no favorable decision has in fact been made. What we told our colleagues in the Likud was that this government, the national unity government which has been in existence for more than 2 years, has done important things. However, the matter of continuing the peace process is for us, just as it is for the Likud according to its views, of the highest importance. Therefore we appealed to the Likud members, saying that this is a cardinal problem for us, and for them. It is worth our going to the nation and asking it, in elections, to decide whether we take the path that appears to us to be the only realistic one to reach direct peace negotiations with Jordan.

[Ben-'Ami] And the Likud rejected this, too.

[Rabin] That is our position. It seems to me that there is an honest proposal here, therefore it would be better to go [to elections] at this stage, when there is a concrete possibility of reaching direct peace negotiations with Jordan. The nation must decide. There are legitimate differences of opinion, but they really touch on the main issue facing the country. Therefore it would be better for us to agree to let the nation decide in elections. It seems to me that the correct, proper, and civilized way, instead of continuing with quarrels and maintaining a government whose ability to function efficiently is in doubt, is to say together this is the dispute; let the nation decide. The nation will decide in elections.

Likud, Labor Caucus 13 May, State Positions

Likud To Seek Cooperation

TA131518 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1456 GMT 13 May 87

[Yaron Deqel report "from the prime minister's residence"]

[Text] The Likud ministers' meeting has ended, and the official announcement issued by the Likud ministers is that they will take initiatives to further the peace process and will continue to strengthen the national unity government. It is in this spirit that the Likud ministers intend to appeal to the Cabinet ministers, to make them aware of the need for cooperation. Minister Qatzav, who emerged from the session a short time ago, told us that the matter of Shim'on Peres continuing with the process he has begun regarding the international conference is immoral and irresponsible, as Minister Qatzav phrased it. However, the Likud ministers are not thinking of dissolving the government.

Likud Statement

TA131245 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1230 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] The Likud Knesset faction has issued a sharp statement reacting to the Labor Party's call on the prime minister to resign from his post:

From the very beginning Shim'on Peres' initiative on the international conference issue has been a mere fig leaf for the dissolution of the government. Since the rotation, the Likud faction's announcement states, Shim'on Peres has not stopped working ceaselessly to undermine the national unity government and has thus established a new norm of a person remaining in the government but acting to topple it at the very same time.

Labor To Remain in Government

TA131408 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] The Labor Party ministers have decided not to resign from the government but at the same time to open overt negotiations with the other parties so as to hold early elections. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that at the meeting held at Foreign Minister Peres' residence, Labor Party Secretary 'Uzi Bar'am was the only one who raised the possibility of a unilateral withdrawal from the government. All the ministers rejected this proposal. Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said that the Labor Party cannot afford to abandon the country to the hands of the Likud. Our correspondent notes that in the wake of the agreement reached at this meeting by the Labor Party ministers, it seems that the Labor Party Knesset faction will not join the no-confidence motions submitted by MAPAM and the Citizens Rights Movement against the government over the international conference issue.

MAPAM, CRM Submit No-confidence Motions

TA131209 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] MAPAM and the CRM [Citizens Rights Movement] have submitted motions of no confidence in the government. In its motion, MAPAM says that the prime minister and the Likud ministers are trying to sabotage any initiative to promote peace and are thus bringing the threat of war closer. CRM says this is a terrible and dangerous government that has been thwarting peace, has brought war closer, and has driven political life to rock bottom.

Earlier Motions Defeated

TA131136 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 13 May 87 p 3

[Report by 'Amos Ben-Vered]

[Excerpt] The no-confidence motions submitted by the two extreme left parties, HADASH and the Progressive List for Peace, over the international conference were defeated yesterday at the Knesset by a large majority. [passage omitted]

NRP Rejects Elections, 'Narrow Government'

TA131610 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] The National Religious Party [NRP] has announced it will not participate in a narrow government, nor will it hold negotiations on the establishment of such a government. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that the NRP Bureau added that it supports the continued existence of the national unity government and is opposed to holding early elections, which will be a waste of time and money.

Party Positions Show 'Slim Chance' for Elections

TA131123 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Our party affairs correspondent Razi Barqay reports that the National Religious Party [NRP] and Shinuy have criticized the contacts held by the Alignment and the Likud with SHAS [Sephardi Torah Guardians]. The NRP announced that it would not accept the two large parties' kneeling before a religious but non-Zionist party, and that, if the liquidation sale at SHAS' doorstep continues, the NRP will reconsider its position on early elections.

Our correspondent notes that the prime minister had informed the NRP that all the reports alleging that SHAS was offered the religious affairs portfolio and that a SHAS minister would replace Minister Zvulun Hammer are groundless.

The Shinuy Faction has announced that the attempts to buy SHAS off constitute a violation of the coalition agreement and are insufferable. Knesset Member [MK] Mordekhay Virshubsky said that his faction will probably favor early elections, but fellow Shinuy MK Zaydan 'Atshah announced that he objects to early elections. He also denied reports that the Likud had approached with an offer that he join the Likud list for the next Knesset.

Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz, on the other hand, confirmed that he had been offered the opportunity of joining the Likud as a separate faction. Our Knesset correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that the growing impression is that there is only a very slim chance that a majority will be found to vote for early elections.

THE JERUSALEM POST Outlines Election Law

TA130824 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 13 May 87 p 4

[Report by Dvora Getzler]

[Text] Israelis are all too used to political crises and to headlines proclaiming the imminent end of a government. But compared with other countries with a multiplicity of parties and coalition governments — such as Italy and France — Israel has a record of relatively stable parliaments. While Knessets seldom last their full four-year term, they don't fall far short of it.

The procedure for calling an election is well-defined in Basic Law: the Knesset and Basic Law: The Government. A new Knesset, the law says, is to be elected every four years in the Hebrew month of Heshvan, which falls in October/November.

But the Knesset may also pass a law to dissolve itself and thus call elections ahead of time. A private member's bill to do just this by the Citizens Rights Movement's Shulamit Aloni, is ready for submission, at any time, since it has already waited the statutory two-month period after having been tabled.

A dissolution bill can also be submitted by the government, which has a distinct advantage over private members in that it can speed the legislative process to push through all three readings within 24 hours. But it would normally give the Knesset at least 48-hours' notice before presenting such a measure.

In theory, an early dissolution bill needs more than a simple majority of members present in the chamber when the vote is called in order to become law. But in practice, voting on such legislation is usually the occasion for recalling MK'S [Knesset Members] from wherever they may be scattered.

Whether the Knesset dissolves at the end of its appointed four-year term or as a result of an early dissolution law, no new government may be formed before elections are held.

The Knesset may also give the government its marching orders by voting no confidence in its functioning. That move may not necessarily be followed by elections, since the president of the state is empowered to approach the heads of other parties and ask them whether they are willing and able to form a government that can win majority Knesset support.

The government, for its part, may end its own term of office in one of three ways. It can resign en bloc. Its premier can resign. Or it may come to an end on the death of the premier.

None of these events necessarily implies that elections are to be held, since again the president may entrust the formation of a new government to the outgoing premier, to another leader of the party in power, or to the leader of another major party. And, as experience has often shown, negotiations with possible coalition partners can be drawn out.

Except where the Knesset votes to dissolve itself and hold early elections, the calling of elections turns the government in power into a transition government which is, in effect, a government besieged: no minister may resign, and no new members may be co-opted.

The bill dissolving the Knesset — in the event of early elections — includes within its provision the date of the elections. And most Israelis doubtless wish they could be held as rapidly as in England, for example, where Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has announced that the country will go to the polls in three weeks.

But two laws may affect the timing of elections. One relates to the list of those barred from being elected — this includes the president, the chief rabbis, judges of secular and rabbinical courts, the state comptroller, the chief of general staff, rabbis and

clerics of other faiths who are employed in those capacities, and senior civil servants and army officers.

At present, the law provides that these people must have left their jobs 100 days before the elections, a provision which could prove inconvenient to politicians wanting to coopt them to their electoral lists.

But, as a senior Knesset source pointed out, this is an easily changed provision, if only on an ad hoc basis, and precedents for such changes exist.

A senior source at the Knesset connected Israel's prolonged run-up to elections with the extreme politicization of society. But moves are afoot to reduce the length of the campaign and anchor the change in law.

Papers View Parties' Dispute Over Conference

TA140705 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0330 GMT 14 May 87

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] *The Jerusalem Post* says the national unity government has come to the end of its road. There is no turning back without either of the two major parties, or both of them, hopelessly compromising their utterly conflicting positions on the crucial issue of peace with the Arabs. The government should be pulled down through new Knesset elections.

Hatzofe writes that the tie that resulted from the Inner Cabinet debate on the international conference means that no mandate was given for the conference. The paper calls for a halt to the mounting tension in relations between the government partners. The style we have been witnessing in the past few days and which became even more extreme yesterday harms national morale and causes damage that will be difficult to repair. The unity government — and there is definitely irony in this name — still has some tasks to carry out. Attempts should be made to find the common elements rather than constantly focusing on the disparate ones.

Ha'aretz believes that Shim'on Peres should not want SHAS [Sephardi Torah Guardians] to be represented again in the government. If this happens, the chances of this faction ever supporting the dissolution of the current government will disappear. And because this is the objective toward which the Alignment is now forced to strive, there is no point in it competing with the Likud in courting SHAS if it wants to escape the humiliating situation in which it currently finds itself. The only chance of SHAS supporting early elections could be lost if the faction is allowed to return to the government.

Davar writes that the operative conclusion that should direct the Alignment leaders is that the real arena for intensive activity is not the Knesset, but rather the public. The Knesset members, the paper adds, will in any event remain traders. The aim must be to highlight the difference between Messrs Peres and Rabin's peace line and Messrs Shamir and Sharon's territorial line. Only if the public is persuaded to prefer the former over the latter will the results of the Knesset elections be beneficial, whether they are brought forward or held at the scheduled time.

According to *Hamodi'a*, the mutual accusations by the Alignment and the Likud, which intensified in the last few days to a record pitch, have not left much room for hope that a formula acceptable to both sides can be found. This is an abnormal situation, verging on anarchy. Not only are the two prime ministers speaking in two different languages, but two governments will now rule in Israel. This will also be an international precedent which will have difficulty functioning.

'Al Hamishmar says those who believe that elections now will harm the economy are mistaken. On the contrary, the continuation of a paralyzed government that is unable to lead the economy in the right direction will cause even greater damage. A government that is split into two camps which neutralize each other cannot make decisions for the good of the economy and cannot change the allocation of resources from wastage, by satisfying the immediate desires of the highest income group through tax benefits and other gifts, to positive national objectives.

Yated Ne'eman, the SHAS organ, writes that the ferocious and obstinate struggle over the international conference, accompanied by language characteristic of fishwives on the issue of an egg which might not even hatch, stems from irrelevant considerations. It is not an excessive love for peace that is causing this paralyzing argument, nor is it the aspiration to save Eretz Yisra'el; rather the dispute stems from narrow party considerations, each with its own interests. [passage omitted]

Peres Going to U.S. To Hear Views on Peace

TA141031 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 14 May 87

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres is preparing to leave for the United States tonight, and he says he will be listening to American views on the peace process, but not seeking their support. More details in this report from Steve Weizman:

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres says his trip to the United States is to listen to American views on the peace process, but not to seek American support for his efforts to convene an international peace conference. Speaking to political reporters in Jerusalem a short time ago, Peres said the current battle between Labor and Likud on the issue was a purely domestic matter and he would not ask even one American to become involved.

Peres leaves tonight for a visit much shorter than originally planned. He was originally due to have spent 1 week in Washington and later visited South America. Since the latest political developments here, with Labor announcing its plan to begin working for elections, Peres will now visit New York only, returning to Israel on Monday. During his long weekend in New York Peres will meet, among others, with Secretary of State George Shultz. It should be remembered that New York is also the home of the United Nations Headquarters and, although there are no firm plans for him to meet officials there at this point, such a possibility cannot be ruled out. [passage omitted]

He emphatically denied yesterday's story in the London SUNDAY TIMES [as heard] saying he had met Jordan's King Husayn in Britain last month and signed agreements with him on a number of points. Nothing has been signed, said Peres, and there is no agreement with Jordan on anything substantial — not on territorial compromise and not on anything else. He did not, however, specifically deny having met Husayn. He would only say: You won't ever find me referring to any such meeting.

Tabah Claims Submitted to Arbitrators in Geneva

TA131539 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Today the representatives of Israel and Egypt submitted their written claims to the team of arbitrators on the Tabah issue. The claims and the documents attached to them were submitted to the arbitrators in Geneva. The Israeli representative, Robi Sabel, reported that this is the first step toward the beginning of the arbitration. The arbitration deliberations will begin at the end of the year or the beginning of next year.

AL-NAHAR: PNC Session Restored Soviet Role

TA131755 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic
11 May 87 pp 1, 7

[Article by 'Uthman al-Hallaq: "The PLO Between a Rock and a Hard Place"]

[Text] Undoubtedly the PLO factions tried sincerely to unify their Palestinian ranks in the recent PNC session in Algiers. After the PLO was forced to leave Lebanon 4 years ago, its internal differences heated up, its pillars were shaken, and feelings were enflamed regarding the line the PLO should follow to achieve its aims. Critical days passed in which the PLO was splintered into factions, groups, and parties.

During this period the principal and moderate wing of the PLO tried to achieve a solution through Jordan and Egypt by meansof the American conduit, but this wing did not succeed in reaching a formula acceptable to all the factions.

At the 18th PNC session the voices of moderation collapsed, the cries of armed struggle and extremism triumphed, and unity was achieved at the expense of reality.

We ask ourselves today: Is it true that 'Arafat has thrown himself into the arms of extremism and extremists? Is it true that he has handed over the "Palestinian card" to the Soviets? These questions are being asked frequently these days in the occupied territories.

Moscow has emerged with all the gold medals from this convention. It has returned to the Middle East arena with the greatest and strongest political opportunity in its contemporary history, following its departure from the Middle East as a result of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, on one hand, and as a result of not aiding its friends in the Lebanese war. With Algeria's assistance, Moscow was able to include members from the Popular Front, the Democratic Front, and the Palestinian Communist Party in the PLO Executive Committee.

We ask ourselves again: Will the coming stage for the PLO be one of the Soviet concept of an international conference? Does this mean that 'Arafat's freedom of maneuver has been limited? And will the PLO be able to retain independent Palestinian decisionmaking?

Unity of the PLO factions has been realized, but what is the price paid by Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] to achieve this unity? How firm is this unity?

The Soviets have been able easily to entice Arab governments that are displeased or angry with U.S. policy because Chairman Gorbachev puts forward ideas and proposals that are in line with Arab positions, while U.S. officials adhere to Israel's intransigent positions and the United States behaves on the premise that it is Israel's attorney and addresses the region's issues from the Israeli perspective. Moreover, the United States deals with the Arabs on the premise that whatever it does, or whatever error it commits, or no matter how biased it is toward Israel, the Arabs will continue to rely on its capability to resolve disputes in the region.

The region has begun to witness a transformation owing to the new Soviet policy, which is achieving gains and progress in the region at a time when U.S. policy is retreating as a result of its adherence to Israeli desires and interests alone.

Will the United States and Israel undertake a real and fundamental reassessment of their calculations and display a greater concern for Arab demands?

ALGERIA

Messaadia, Ibrahimi Brief Bendjedid on Tunis Trip

LD132202 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1800 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid received Messaadia and Taleb Ibrahimi on their return from Tunisia. The two had gone there as part of the regular dialogue between the FLN Political Bureau and the Destourian Socialist Party Political Bureau.

The official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee and the foreign minister were received this morning by President Bourguiba. Messaadia and Taleb Ibrahimi also had talks with Destourian Party leaders, including Rachid Sfar.

At the end of their last working session this morning, Messaadia, the official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee, told the press that the two parties had reviewed the question of cooperation and discussed the development of the greater Maghreb on sound bases that guarantee the sovereignty and independence of all peoples in the region and contribute to the emergence of a complementary Arab Maghreb characterized by shared interests and objectives.

Official To Take Messages to Mali, Niger

LD132158 Algiers Domestic in French
1800 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] The head of state has received Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, minister of state for the presidency, before his departure for Bamako and Niamey. Acting as a special envoy, Abdelghani will deliver messages to the presidents of Mali and Niger.

PRC Foreign Minister To Visit 31 May-3 Jun

LD131245 Algiers Domest'c Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] It was announced in Algiers and Beijing today that at the invitation of Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs, Wu Xueqian, member of the Politburo, State Councilor, and PRC foreign minister, will pay an official visit to Algeria from 31 May to 3 June.

MAURITANIA

Algerian Minister Arrives With Bendjedid Message

LD132149 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic
2030 GMT 13 May 87

[Excerpts] Algerian Transportation Minister Rachid Benyelles has arrived in Nouakchott carrying a message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid' Ahmed Taya, chairman of the CMSN and head of state. [passage omitted]

The Algerian minister made a statement at the airport:

[Begin Benyelles recording] I come here with a message from President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Algerian Republic, to brother Maaouya Ould Sid' Ahmed Taya, leader of the Mauritanian Republic. The message deals with the latest political developments in the region — particularly after Brother Chadli Bendjedid's trip to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the recent meeting between Morocco's King Hassan II and Brother Chadli Bendjedid, which was held on the Algerian-Morocco border. Thank you. [end recording]

SUDAN

Premier Dissolves Council of Ministers

EA132138 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic
1930 GMT 13 May 87

[Statement by Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi on 13 May; place not given — recorded]

[Text] In the Name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. May peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you.

The Government of National Unity is now a year old. It has witnessed both achievements and failures. Its most important achievements are:

First: The consolidation of democracy and the commitment to a national course that transcends partisanship and has achieved a measure of cooperation among all the country's political forces.

Second: The leap in production of the agricultural sector and in some strata of the industrial sector; the initiation of extensive financial reform; reform in the public sector; and preparation of a medium-term economic recovery program.

Third: Definition of the principles of a peaceful solution to the problem of the South; highly efficient confrontation by our valiant Armed Forces of the aggression directed against Sudan; (?normalization) of the administration of government and administration [as heard] in the South; and enlightenment of the Sudanese and the world public on the peaceful nature of Sudan's policy and justice.

Fourth: Annulment of the entire foreign policy left to us in May [after Numayri's ouster]; its replacement with balanced relations based on good-neighborliness regionally and nonalignment internationally; and a new world view that has won Sudan admiration everywhere.

Those are the four basic achievements. However, during this past year we have noticed shortcomings in the following respects:

First: The extreme delay in the elimination of the vestiges of May and also in the annulment of the September laws and the passage of alternative legislation.

Second: Failure in the supply and distribution of goods, in the control of prices, and in attracting the savings of expatriates,

which had an adverse effect on the aim of removing suffering from our people.

Third: The onset of failure in the performance of some ministers, accompanied by contradictions among a number of them, which made a poor impression.

The Council of Ministers examined its performance over the past year. It decided to define and declare its positive and negative aspects in order to support the positive and eliminate the negative. Then the two large parties appointed a joint committee that discussed the performance of all state bodies. It submitted its recommendations, asking the relevant quarters in the political and state leadership and in the leadership of the other official bodies to strive to consolidate the achievements and eliminate the obstacles.

Finally, mutual dislike surfaced between officials, which should not have taken place.

As an assurance of the ability of the democratic regime to reform and renovate, to learn from its experiences, to aspire to a higher level of responsiveness to the events of the uprising and the rescue of the homeland, and to be able to renew its determination, remove the causes of dilatory performance, and remove those incapable of performing at the required standard and with enthusiastic cooperation and harmony, I have applied Article 96 D of the Constitution and requested the Council of the Head of State to release my colleagues in the present Council of Ministers. I undertook to contact the relevant political forces to achieve the required reorganization.

This measure was taken in the high national interest and was not due to any differences between the government parties. Relations between the government parties, particularly the Ummah and the Democratic Unionists, were strong and included positive attitudes toward the political forces outside the government. However, the factors mentioned above dictated that we should take into consideration the facts which have arisen in the political arena, achieve a higher level of harmony among the ministers, and put the right man in the right job.

I submitted my recommendation to the chairman and members of the Council of the Head of State today. The present ministers will continue in office until the Council of the Head of State has made a decision concerning the recommendation. A temporary assignment will then take place until the announcement of the new formation.

Brothers, this measure emanates from a firm relationship between the government parties and a good climate in the relationship between them and the opposition. It should be understood in its true nature, its positive aspects, eliminating negative aspects and forming a group that is more cooperative in the service of the people and the fulfillment of their aspirations.

It is God who grants success, so it may reign over us with the blessings of this month and preserve Sudan, the land of our forefathers. May peace and God's blessings be upon you.

Paper Says Army To Participate in 'Bright Star'

JN131250 Khartoum SUNA in English
1020 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Khartoum, May 13, (SUNA) — Sudan will participate in the Bright Star maneuver which will be carried out by the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces in collaboration with troops from Italy, Jordan, Oman and Egypt the daily *Al-Usbu'* quoting a responsible source said today.

The daily said that Sudan's participation in the maneuver comes within the context of promoting and modernizing the Armed Forces.

On the other hand the Sudanese Comunist Party organ *"Al-Mahdan"* in its today's issue affirmed that heavy internal and external pressures were still exerted on the Sudanese Government to participate in the maneuver.

Recently the acting information minister Mubarak al-Fadil had denied news circulated by the Egyptian newspapers that Sudan would take part in the U.S. maneuver.

Sudan, during the defunct regime, had twice participated in the U.S. organized Bright Star maneuver; one was carried out inside the Sudanese territories.

The transitional government which assumed power after the success of April 6 popular uprising had refrained to participate in Bright Star maneuver in 1985.

General Burmah Denies Libyan Forces in West

JN131619 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Khartoum, 13 May (SUNA) — Major General Fadlallah Burmah Nasir, minister of state for defense affairs, said there are no Libyan forces in western Sudan and indicated that the Armed Forces conducted a comprehensive survey of the region.

In a statement to the newspaper [name indistinct], Burmah said the statements made by some deputies in this regard are based on false and baseless information, and added that the state must shoulder its resonsibility toward the citizens by providing them with security. Burmah added that the citizens themselves must also shoulder a part of this responsibility, and said that what is being circulated about instability and insecurity in Darfur is exaggerated [words indistinct] the presence of some weapons in citizens' hands and the armed robbery phenomenon.

The minister of state for defense affairs emphasized that stability is prevailing in southern Sudan and that the Armed Forces are doing everything in order to confront the outlaws in autumn, and he added that every Sudanese citizen must play his/her role in the incidents which are taking place in southern Sudan. He appealed to everyone to support and serve the interests of the state.

Burmah indicated that both the current and transitional governments spared no efforts in working for peace and added: We are now certain that Garang is not working for peace or dialogue,

and that he is really working to serve non-Sudanese interests [words indistinct].

Government 'Source' on Garang Group's Legitimacy

LD132315 Kuwait KUNA in English 1009 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Khartoum, May 13 (KUNA) — A Sudanese government source said Wednesday that until now, the government did not recognize a legitimate existence of John Garang's movement (the Sudan People's Liberation Movement and its military branch — the Sudan People's Liberation Army).

The source who wished to remain anonymous added, as such, it would be impossible to address the movement through official government channels.

The statement is an apparent reply to a recent complaint by Garang carried by Khartoum daily *"Sudan Times"* earlier this week that the recent peace initiative by Sudan Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi was written on plain paper and instead of being addressed to the SPLM, it was directed to "all those who are carrying arms".

Garang further claimed that the "paper" was delivered to the SPLA offices by a Sudanese interpreter working with the Organization of African Unity and not by a member of the Sudanese Embassy in Addis Ababa.

The source added that the new initiative of the prime minister which was declared on April 6, was delivered to the movement's office in Addis Ababa "in an informal manner because the government does not recognize its legitimate existence."

Asked why Al-Mahdi agreed to meet with Garang at Addis Ababa in August last year, the source said the premier was then acting in his capacity as president of the Ummah Party.

SPLA Claims Hercules Transport Plane Downed

EA131352 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] An enemy Hercules transport plane was shot down at Wau yesterday, 12 May 1987. The plane was hit by SPLA's antiaircraft gun when it was about to land. The plane, which was carrying two enemy platoons for reinforcement, was downed by the SPLA combined task force under the command of Captain Samuel Deng Deng. Correspondent says the action took place at 0900 am Sudan local time [0700 GMT]. The Hercules was shot down by Sergeant (Kuol Kwai) of Nile Battalion. More details will be broadcast as soon as they are received.

Air Travel Warning Reiterated

EA131355 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] The official spokesman for the SPLM-SPLA Political-Military High Command has renewed his warning to the civilians not to travel on both military and civilian aircraft for their own safety. It is to be recalled that the chairman and commander in chief of SPLM-SPLA, Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior, has stated last month that the SPLA has the capability to bring down most kinds of aircraft flying at any altitude.

SPLA Commander Asks for Humanitarian Groups Aid

EA131650 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel Kuol Manyang Juk, alternate member of SPLM-SPLA Political-Military High Command and zonal commander for central south Sudan, has called on the humanitarian organizations to extend relief aid to the Sudanese masses in the areas controlled by the SPLM-SPLA.

He made the call in an interview with a special Radio SPLA correspondent in his zonal headquarters recently. On the security of the personnel of the humanitarian organizations who may positively respond to his call, Lt Col Kuol Manyang affirmed that their security is guaranteed, adding that the whole of the countryside in War Zone 1 is fully under the control of the SPLA.

He stressed that any humanitarian organization willing to assist the needy population in War Zone 1 can do so through the Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Association, which has offices abroad and in the neighboring countries.

TUNISIA

Bourguiba, Sfar Meet Algerian FLN Delegation

LD131620 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 May 87

[Excerpts] At the Republic Palace in Carthage this morning, His Excellency President Habib Bourguia received Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia and Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi [members of Algeria's FLN Political Bureau]. [passage omitted]

Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia declared that he and Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi had the pleasure of meeting the supreme combatant and they conveyed to his excellency the greetings of his brother, His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid. Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia added that during the meeting his excellency the president was informed about some issues of common concern relating to Tunisian-Algerian cooperation and other issues concerning the region.

Prime Minister Rachid Sfar, the party secretary general, met this morning with Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia and Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi in the presence of Mr Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and Mr Abdelaziz Ben Dhia. Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia said these talks were friendly and frank. They dealt with cooperation between the two countries, which every day shows new signs of the seriousness of the two leaderships in persevering in this cooperation that has begun to bear fruit, and in coordinating their efforts in the consolidation of this cooperation and in foreign

policy concerns. Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia pointed out that the talks also dealt with the issue of building the greater Maghreb on secure bases that will guarantee the sovereignty and independence of all peoples of the region and will make possible the creation of a complementary Arab Maghreb having unified interests and aims. He said that work will continue between the two leaderships to achieve this great aim.

The Algerian FLN delegation, primarily including Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia and Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, left Tunis this morning after a working visit that lasted 2 days, during whch the delegation's two members met with the supreme combatant, Habib Bourguia, president of the state and chairman of the Destourian Socialist Party, and held talks with senior party and state officials.

This visit was a new episode in the series of direct contacts and continuous consultations between the leaderships of the two countries on both the party and the government level, which have experienced increased activity since President Habib Bourguiba and Chadli Bendjedid signed the Tunisian-Algerian Treaty of Fraternity and Concord on 19 March 1983.

In the VIP lounge, Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia made a statement in which he stressed that the visit he and Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi made to Tunisia was successful and that the talks between the delegations of the two countries were fraternal and followed a definite purpose. Several bilateral issues were studied, including the results of the cooperation between the two countries, some issues of common concern related to the building of the Arab Maghreb, and the situation in the Arab world, Africa, and the Mediterranean. [passage omitted]

ETHIOPIA

Cooperation Discussed With DPRK Minister

EA131614 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Comrade Tesfaye Dinka, candidate member of the WPE Central Committee and head of the finance and economic service sector of the Council of Ministers, held talks in his office today with Comrade Chong Song-nam, DPRK external economic affairs minister and chairman of the Korean delegation to the Ethiopian-Korean Joint Commission on Cooperation. The discussions focused on the implementation of the agreement reached by the leaders of the two countries in Pyongyang recently and on strengthening the existing comprehensive cooperation between the two states. During Comrade Tesfaye's talk with the five-man group led by Comrade Chong Song-nam, ideas were exchanged on the planned joint development farm in the Omo area and other issues.

KENYA

Foreign Ministry on Libyan Training of Runaways

EA132052 Nairobi KNA in English 1655 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Nairobi, 13 May — The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has criticised reported military training of runaway Kenyans by Libya with a view to destabilising the popularly elected Kenya Government. The head of African affairs and the OAU division in the ministry, Mr O.A. Fakih, said today in a press statement that the government was watching the situation with deep concern.

Mr Fakih was referring to today's local newspaper reports saying more than 200 Kenyans were receiving military training in Libya. The Kenyans allegedly used Ugandan travel documents to get to Libya. He said the activities of Libya in Kenya and the clandestine trips to Uganda by the former local Libyan charge d'affaires were too recent to be easily forgotten. Mr Fakih noted that in the last six months, at least 13 Kenyan drivers had been killed in Uganda, and several Kenyans have been arrested, and the Kenyan Government had been handling these issues through diplomatic channels. "But the carnage and mistreatment of Kenyans appears not to end," he added.

He also referred to an accident in which a 15-year-old boy, Peter Mwaura, was hit by a car driven by a Libyan with Libyan passengers near Timboroa [western Kenya] on 13 March. The boy died later the same day. He said the occupants of the vehicle did not stop. They also did not report the incident to the nearest police station, and when the Ministry of Foreign Affairs wrote to the Libyan Embassy to identify the driver, the embassy did not reply.

"That is certainly not in keeping with accepted norms of behavior by any driver, especially a member of the diplomatic corps," Mr Fakih said. He pointed out that tolerance had a limit, and unless these activities stopped, they would hinder cooperation and development among the people of East Africa.

Iranian Minister Told of Concern Over Gulf War

EA131043 Nairobi KNA in English 1720 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Nairobi, 12 May — The minister for energy and regional development, Mr Nicholas Biwott, has said that Kenya was perturbed with the Gulf war and would like to see a peaceful solution to end destruction of life and resources. He said that the war which has taken several months now [as received] has endangered movement of ships and reduced trade in the Gulf area. Mr Biwott said this when he held talks with the visiting Iranian acting minister for foreign affairs, Mr 'Ali Mohammad Besharati at his Nyayo House office.

The minister assured the Iranian minister that Kenya, which cherished peace and territorial integrity, was ready to give any assistance towards finding a lasting solution to the Gulf war. He hoped that the warring countries Iran and Iraq would leave territorial aggression of each other's country and call for round table political dialogues to end the crisis.

The minister said that territorial integrity and national independence were issues which a country would not want outsiders to tamper with. This is why Kenya cannot condone any foreigner interfering with her internal affairs as it gave foreigners the right to stay in the country and expected them to reciprocate to the good gesture, he said.

Mr Biwott hailed the long-standing cordial relations with Iran, which, he said, only dented when the former Iranian Shah Reza Pahlavi closed his country's embassy in Kenya. But since the revolution, the minister said, relations have resumed and the two countries were always looking for further avenues to cement the existing relations.

He added that Kenya's good relations with Iran have been strengthened by trade as Kenya bought most of its crude oil from Iran. He hoped that the Iranian Government will buy more from Kenya to reduce imbalance of trade which currently favours Iran.

Mr Besharati hailed the Kenya Government for its concern about the war with Iraq and hoped that Kenya would appeal to Western countries to stop supporting Iraq. The minister accused Saddam Husayn's government for escalating the Gulf war by constantly carrying out territorial aggression against Iran. Mr Husayn's war activities in the Gulf, particularly his aggression against Iran, has made him look an international criminal, the minister said.

He called on the international tribunal court which has continued to prosecute people who caused the Second World War to prosecute Iraq as it was endangering world peace in the Gulf area. However, the minister said that in spite of the war in the Gulf area his country was exporting two million barrels of oil a day to the world.

The minister said that his country was considering reducing the gap in trade with Kenya by buying more Kenyan tea, maize and other agro-products. The occasion was attended by Iranian ambassador to Kenya, permanent secretary in the Ministry of Energy and Regional Development, Mr P. Mwangi and the managing director of Kenya pipelines, Mr Japheth Shamalla.

UGANDA

Kenyan Rebels' Use of Country's Passports Denied

EA132108 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] The minister of information and broadcasting, Mr Abubekar Mayanja, has strongly refuted a report which appeared in a Kenyan newspaper today that Kenyan rebels get passports from Uganda to train in Libya. He said there is absolutely no truth in the allegation, which appeared in *The Standard* newspaper. The minister said no Kenyan rebel has either been on Ugandan soil or been given passport to travel to other countries. On the contrary, he said, there are many Ugandan rebels living in Kenya. Mr Mayanja also denied other allegations that Zairians go to Libya via Uganda. Mr Mayanja said that there are no Africans, particularly Zairians, who have gone to Libya via Uganda. He also denied that there are 800 Ugandan soldiers training in Libya. He said we have had very few personnel training in technical fields in Libya and we are not ashamed to have them trained there just as we have had some personnel training in the technical fields in Tanzania and Britain. Mr Mayanja said Uganda shall continue to have technical people trained in friendly countries anywhere in the world as long as there is need to do so.

He said it is not true that Ugandan ministers are making weekly visits to Libya as alleged by *The Standard* newspaper. He noted that even some of the ministers mentioned in the report have never been to Libya. On further allegations by the paper that Libyans are piloting Ugandan planes, the minister said the Uganda Government does not use foreigners for operational purposes. He also denied that there are PLO mercenaries in Uganda. The minister said it is unfortunate that the Kenyan press is (?building) a psychological warfare against Uganda, especially when communications between Uganda and Kenya have been cut off on the Kenyan side. The minister assured the government and the people of Uganda and all our neighbors that we have enough problems in Uganda and we will not interfere in their own internal affairs. He said Uganda is an open society where Kenyans, journalists, and diplomats can come and find out the truth for themselves instead of relying on European mercenary reporters based in London who pretend to know more about Uganda. The National Resistance Army, he said, has sufficient capacity, especially now that it has the natural resources at its disposal to organize and train itself and protect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Uganda without relying on foreign mercenaries.

State Dinner Given for DPRK Vice President

EA131309 Kampala Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] The vice chairman of the NRM [National Resistance Movement], Haji Musa Kigongo, has called for increased cooperation and understanding between Uganda and the DPRK to facilitate and encourage further educational, cultural, and technical cooperation between the two countries. Haji Kigongo made the call during the state dinner that he hosted in honor of the visiting vice president of the DPRK, Mr Yi Chong-ok, held at the International Conference Center in Kampala. Haji Kigongo noted with pleasure that the presence of the North Korean vice president in Uganda is a sign of the solidarity and brotherhood that exist between the two countries. The NRM vice chairman reaffirmed the belief and membership of Uganda and North Korea in the Nonaligned Movement and urged both countries to work towards the positive contribution to the movement and the community of nations at large.

In his speech, the North Korean vice president, Mr Yi Chong-ok, expressed appreciation and gratitude to the government and people of Uganda for the warm hospitality accorded to him since he came to the country. Mr Yi Chong-ok conveyed greetings from the North Korean leader, Mr Kim Il-song, the government and people of the DPRK to President Museveni, the government, and people of Uganda. The North Korean vice president assured the NRM vice chairman and the people of Uganda that his country will make every effort to strengthen the friendship and solidarity with the Ugandan people and to develop the relationship of cooperation and interchange for the mutual benefit of both countries.

Museveni Receives Yi Chong-ok

EA132203 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 13 May 87

[Excerpt] President Yoweri Museveni has received the visiting vice president of the DPRK, Mr Yi Chong-ok, who called on him at State House, Entebbe. Mr Yi is on a short visit to Uganda to see areas which could be incorporated in the programs to be undertaken by the Korean Government under the cooperation agreement signed between Uganda and North Korea recently. The Korean delegation is also making a study of what projects can be launched in the fields of construction, mining, and spare parts production. [passage omitted]

Amnesty International Notes Improved Human Rights

EA131255 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] A senior official of the London-based human rights organization, Amnesty International, has said the organization believes that Uganda's commitment to human rights has greatly improved since President Yoweri Museveni came to office 15 months ago, despite conflicts between the NRA [National Resistance Army] and rebel factions. Mr (Richard Cover), a member of an Amnesty delegation which visited Kampala recently, said that the international human rights organization was identifying problems in the context of a massive qualitative improvement in the human rights situation. He said that the past patterns of mass killings by the Army and torture have ended. Mr (Cover) pointed out that the current surge in court cases was also a very positive sign and that Amnesty had welcomed the setting up of both a commission of inquiry into the past violations of human rights and the appointment of an inspector general of government, Mr (Augustin Ruzindana), who will develop a department to investigate any new human rights complaint.

CAR

Former Officials Arrested at Bokassa Trial

AB131508 Paris AFP in French 1957 GMT 12 May 87

[Excerpt] Bangui, 12 May (AFP) — Alphonse Koyamba, the CAR's former first vice prime minister and minister of finance, was charged on Tuesday [12 May] with "embezzling public funds." He was also accused of being an "accessory to embezzlement" by the Bangui criminal court at the 78th session of Jean-Bedel Bokassa's trial. He was immediately placed under arrest.

Another witness at the trial, Jean Gombo, former financial director of the CAR Social Security Office (OCSS), was also charged with "embezzling public funds" and was arrested at the hearing.

Mr Koyamba was appointed minister of finance in Henri Maidou's government in 1972 and was promoted to the rank of first vice prime minister, a post he occupied until the emperor's downfall in 1979. Gabriel Faustin Mbodou, the general prosecutor who called for his detention, accused him of opening over 35 accounts in various private banks on behalf of the CAR Government while minister of finance. According to the court, it was through these accounts that public funds were embezzled by the former emperor.

Mr Koyamba and Jean Gombo, the former financial director of the OCSS, are said to have embezzled, through a power of attorney established in the name of Mr Koyamba, a sum "provisionally" estimated at over 20 million CFA francs (Fr400,000), which were withdrawn from the funds of the CAR Social Security Office. [passage omitted]

CAMEROON

Presidency Issues Report on Policy, Economy

AB132140 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] The Presidency of the Republic has published a documentary entitled: "Cameroon, a Country That Enjoys High Credibility." The document, produced by the private cabinet of the president, examined the domestic policy, diplomacy, the economy, and the society, the National Assembly, and Economic and Social Council, and infers that these are aspects of the dynamic, hard-working, and independent Cameroonians.

On the economy, the document portrayed how the Cameroonian economy is prosperous by keeping to its growth of national product rate, which is 7 percent. It also revealed that Cameroon presently has a surplus balance of payment, adding that our treasury is sound with a credit balance of 60,800 million CFA francs in 1986.

ZAIRE

Principal Secretary, Others Suspended for Abuses

AB130841 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1256 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Kinshasa, 11 May (AZAP) — Citizen Nsimba Mwando, state commissioner for civil service, has informed First State Commissioner Citizen Mulumba Mabi that Citizen Kpohou, principal secretary for land affairs, has been suspended for "arbitrarily" allocating some houses to himself. Kpohou did so by imposing his authority on the divisional heads of the regional branch of land affairs in Haut-Zaire. This is contained in a communique from the office of the first state commissioner handed to AZAP this evening. According to the source, a similar case was discovered in the Department of State Investments in which 11 villas belonging to the government were "fraudulently" sold to third parties.

The same source noted that the Executive Council, determined to protect state property, will hit hard and will demonstrate effectively that things will no longer be as they were. It has published a long list of all officials involved in shady deals designed to impoverish the state. Their cases will be referred to the Judicial Council, which will not fail to support the action of the Executive Council and will impose very severe penalties on these officials. The communique goes on to point out that this purge is also directed against cadres involved in serious acts of indiscipline against the party. This group includes the principal secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture, Citizen Sewa Nzau, who was suspended on 24 April.

Earlier in the morning, Citizen Mwando told AZAP that Citizens Mianza Longumba and Nzombo a Nzombo, secretary general and director in charge of control of state workers and salary affairs respectively, have also been suspended. The two are charged with embezzling state funds.

New Chadian Ambassador Arrives, Makes Statement

AB132005 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1755 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Kinshasa, 13 May (AZAP) — GUNT President Goukouni Oueddei's return to Ndjamena is now just a matter of time, and if it takes place, it will be a step forward in the search for peace in Chad. This statement was made by Mad Zoingie Ahmet, Chad's new ambassador to Zaire, who arrived in Kinshasa today. The Chadian diplomat also explained that the Aozou Strip is still the leading question in his country. He expressed the view that "if his country had the necessary means, the recovery of this part of Chad would be no problem."

Commenting on his diplomatic mission to Zaire, Mad Ahmet said he was pleased to be working in "a country very dear to all Chadians." He noted that he would use his term of office to work toward strengthening the bonds of friendship and brotherhood between the two peoples, which have been ceaselessly consolidated by their presidents, Mobutu Sese Seko and Hissein Habre. Mad Ahmet replaces Mautuine Djoumbe Mute in Kinshasa. Mr Mute is now in Khartoum, while Mr Ahmet was formerly ambassador to Sudan.

BURKINA FASO

France's Aurillac Visits Assistance Projects

AB130845 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1306 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] French Cooperation Minister Michel Aurillac, who has been on a visit to Burkina Faso since yesterday, went to Bobo Dioulasso this morning in the company of Minister of External Relations Leandre Bassolet and the French ambassador in our country. Here is a report by correspondent Beatrice Yameogo:

[Yameogo] Mr Aurillac, who was accompanied by External Relations Minister Comrade Leandre Bassolet and the French ambassador to our country, was able to visit such infrastructure projects as the Bobo Dioulasso Airport and the (Soro Sani) Hospital. As for the Bobo Dioulasso Airport, it must be said that the revival of economic activity in the subregion has also (?required) the establishment of certain basic facilities. In the case of the airport, the runway is already complete. The storage facility is under construction and orders have already been placed for technical equipment. (?In fact), considerable funds are needed to build the airport terminal. The documents relating to this air terminal, which is likely to be financed partly by France, were discussed pending thorough discussions.

With regard to the Bobo Dioulasso National Hospital, it must be said that many problems are being encountered, notably structural and functional ones. Thus, the concerns of medical personnel and the living conditions of patients forced the authorities to consider rehabilitating the project. France will also finance this rehabilitation project, which is to be spread over 3 years. Her is Mr Aurillac giving details on the project:

[Begin recording] Concerning the project, I have come to see what must be done and to hand over a consignment of drugs. The main purpose of my visit is to work out a 3-year assistance program that will help — through the financing of the Aid and Cooperation Fund — turn the Bobo Dioulasso National Hospital into an instrument of national health coverage needed by Burkina Faso. It consists of a first phase — that is, first of all, the rehabilitation of the surgical ward, the laboratories, the blood transfusion center, and the x-ray section. The medical work to be conducted here will be in coordination with what the Common Organization in Control of Major Endemic Diseases has been doing, that is, the (?Murase) Center, which you are all familiar with and which devotes its efforts to hematology. We will try to turn the Bobo Dioulasso blood transfusion center, which will play a national role in Burkina Faso, into one known worldwide for its quality, that is to say, the equivalent of the best blood transfusion centers in France and Europe. I must say that I sense the great interest that the Burkinabe Government and the head of state, Captain Thomas Sankara, attach to this operation. [end recording]

The French minister of cooperation also presented a vehicle and a shipment of drugs supplied by the French Cooperation Ministry through the Doctors Without Borders organization.

Later in the morning, the French cooperation minister, who had returned to Ouagadougou, was received in audience by the comrade president of Burkina Faso for a review of French-Burkinabe relations. Mr Aurillac then spoke to the national press.

Discusses Bilateral Cooperation

AB131102 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] At the end of his visit to our country, the French minister of cooperation, Michel Aurillac, was received in audience this morning by the comrade president of Burkina Faso. The two men examined bilateral relations and at the end of the audience Michel Arillac answered questions from local reporters. With regard to the major issues of French-Burkinabe cooperation, the French minister said several of these points have been thoroughly discussed. In the same vein, he recalled that some operations are already being executed, notably the Ouagadougou central market and the Bobo Dioulasso Hospital.

As for French-Burkinabe cooperation, the joint commission has only met twice since it was set up in 1978. The third session is scheduled to take place next month in Paris. Will it be a session for the revival and strengthening of this collaboration? Let us hear Michel Aurillac's answer:

[Begin recording] [Aurillac] This cooperation is very active, all the same.

[Reporter] [Passage indistinct]

[Aurillac] That is a matter of opinion, but I think it is indeed active. In fact, I believe next month's joint commission meeting will actually lead to the establishment of a program to cover several years. The problem with the organization of joint commission meetings in previous years was that they tended to be on an ad hoc basis. [passage indistinct]

[Reporter] As part of its first People's 5-Year Development Plan, Burkina Faso intended to carry out major projects such as the construction of the Bagre Dam. To what extent does France intend to participate in the implementation of this project?

[Aurillac] I told President Sankara that on the (?financing) of the project — since it is a major issue — France will finance [words indistinct] the Bagre Dam project. [end recording]

GHANA

Police Stop Student Demonstration in Cape Coast

AB132136 Paris AFP in French 2036 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Cape Coast (Ghana), 13 May (AFP) — Police today banned a demonstration of students from the University of Cape Coast (125 km southwest of Accra), who wanted to enter the downtown area, claiming that the procession was illegal.

A police detachment, led by the regional commander, Sam Awotwe, stood in front of the students who were carrying placards and chanting slogans on the outskirts of the town. Seeing the police coming with billy clubs, the students sat by the side of the road, saying they did not intend to be disorderly.

The commander explained to the leaders that the demonstration had not been authorized and that they had to return to the campus. The students then turned back.

Ghanaian students have decided to boycott classes until eight of their leaders, arrested and accused of inciting students to fight the government, are released.

Leader Arraigned on Drug Charge

AB132129 Accra Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Eric Seth Kakraba Cromwell, a 3d-year student of the University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, was today arraigned before the National Public Tribunal, presided over by Kwesi Aggrey, for attempting to export a quantity of Indian hemp.

According to the prosecution, on 16 March 1983, Kakraba Cromwell went to the Kotoka International Airport to travel on a scheduled flight to Dakar, Senegal. The accused submitted himself to the usual security examination. At the last checkpoint, some dry leaves, suspected to be Indian hemp, were found concealed in the sole of his shoes. Upon interrogation, Cromwell claimed ownership of the leaves. According to the prosecution, the accused said he intended exporting the Indian hemp to Dakar for sale. The accused, the prosecution said, wrote a caution statement on 7 April 1983 and was granted 50,000 cedis bail with one surety. The accused presented one Reginald Quartey to stand surety for him, and the amount was paid.

The prosecution said after Kakraba was released on bail, he reported four times to the police. The last time the accused reported was on 13 May 1983. His surety was later contacted to produce Kakraba Cromwell for further investigations.

The prosecution further told the tribunal that during the investigations, Kakraba Cromwell mentioned one Jeff Nii Abbey Quaye, who was in Senegal, as his partner in the crime. The prosecution added that the accused, after jumping bail, never stopped his drug trafficking activities between Ghana and Dakar, which involved several persons in and outside the country. These persons have not been reached. The prosecution said the extent of his criminal activities are still under investigation.

The prosecution pointed out that Cromwell at first gave his name simply as Seth Cromwell. He did not mention Kakraba.

When he was asked to give his plea after the charges were read to him, he told the tribunal that he could not plead because he has no lawyer yet. As a result, the tribunal entered a plea of not guilty for him and adjourned the hearing for 2 weeks to enable him to see his lawyer who has traveled.

Asked if he had anything to say, Kakraba Cromwell said it was rather unfortunate that in an attempt by students to get him released, they have overreacted and created a lot of chaos and confusion. According to him, whatever statement he made to the national security agencies since he was arrested was not due to any torture. He admitted that his parents have been able to see him freely.

When Cromwell was leaving the court, he was overheard telling some students who were in court: Charlie, it's true I did it! This was after the students had asked him if it was true that he smuggled wee [Indian hemp].

Newspaper Cited on 'Agitations'

AB131043 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 13 May 87

[From the press review]

[Text] The *Ghanaian Times* comments on reports of agitations by certain students following the closure of the University of Ghana. The paper is, however, surprised at the students' behavior because there is no issue over educational reforms involved and neither is there any matter of substance. Perhaps the main motive of the student leadership is to disrupt the academic year and jeopardize the future of thousands of sixth formers waiting to enter the universities next academic year, by insisting that a self-confessed criminal, a drug dealer, who has profited from warping the minds of his fellow students, be released from custody and readmitted into university without being brought before court.

The *Times* asks: Have the students, who are agitating on the campuses making the most about why a drug peddler should be kept in custody, really stopped to consider the implications of what they are doing? If they had, they would have realized that the growth of international drug trafficking is causing concern worldwide. In Malaysia for example, the offense is punishable by firing squad. The students should know that Ghana has also an international obligation to combat drug peddling as well as take the necessary measures to prevent the harm which it is doing in the country.

The paper notes that drug trafficking is so serious that both in Ghana and elsewhere, it is usual for serious drug offenders to be kept in custody pending investigations. In the view of the *Times*, the proper thing for the students to have done was to call on the police to expedite action in dealing with all such offences instead of just causing trouble over the issue of only one such person who happens to have been, until recently, a member of the NUGS [National Union of Ghanaian Students] executive.

It says however much the students have erred, there is one group of people who should bear blame for what happened at Legon [University of Ghana], or what may happen elsewhere if the troublemakers had their way, and that is the authorities at the University of Ghana and on other campuses, who should shoulder their responsibilities to justify their positions as mediators between students and the government. Meanwhile, the *Times*

urges the government to screen the troublemakers at Legon so as to allow the university's normal work to resume.

LIBERIA

Opposition Party Members Arrested, Granted Bail

AB131424 Paris AFP in French 1338 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Monrovia, 13 May (AFP) — About 10 persons, including members of the United People's Party (UPP, opposition party), were arrested over the weekend during an enlistment campaign launched by the party in Grand Bassa County (some 100 km southeast of Monrovia). According to today's edition of the independent newspaper the *Daily Observer*, they were later granted bail.

Quoting the president of the UPP's local branch, Kowee Saywrane, the paper says that three soldiers made the arrests while those charged with enlisting new party members were distributing membership cards. Mr Saywrane indicated that the soldiers confiscated the money and belongings of those detained.

District officials have confirmed the arrests, stating that those taken into custody were schoolteachers who were UPP members charged with enlisting new members in the region. The officials pointed out that the new Constitution bars schoolteachers from any political activities.

NIGER

OAU Chairman Stops Over, Meets Kountche

AB131233 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Denis Sassou-Nguesso, president of the People's Republic of Congo and current chairman of the OAU, made a technical stopover a few moments ago at Niamey International Airport. Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, who was accompanied by his wife, was on his way to the FRG for an official visit.

The Congolese president was met on arrival by General Seyni Kountche, Supreme Military Council [CMS] chairman and head of state, and by the chief of general staff of the Niger Armed Forces, Col Ali Seybou. He was later greeted by the president of the National Council of Development, the prime minister, the grand chancellor of the Legion of Honor, members of the CMS and government, and by members of the diplomatic corps. President Sassou-Nguesso held private talks with the head of state before leaving Niamey.

NIGERIA

Government To Improve Relations With SFRY

AB131754 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] The chief of general staff, Rear Admiral Augustus Aikhomu, has reaffirmed the government's commitment to the development of rural areas. He stated this while receiving Mr Radovan Makic, Yugoslav minister and cochairman, Nigeria-Yugoslavia Joint Commission, in his office. The chief of general staff assured the envoy that Nigeria would improve ties with Yugoslavia.

Mr Makic had told Adm Aikhomu that he was in Dodan Barracks to convey a special goodwill message from the Yugoslav president, Sinan Hasani, to President Ibrahim Babangida. He expressed satisfaction with the Federal Government's economic program and praised Nigeria's role in the Nonaligned Movement and the struggle against apartheid.

SENEGAL

Chadian Foreign Minister Briefs Abdou Diouf

AB131718 Paris AFP in French 1508 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Dakar, 13 May (AFP) — Chadian Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou asserted this afternoon in Dakar that certain psychological barriers must be overcome in the discussions his government is holding with GUNT President Goukouni Oueddei over his return to Ndjamena.

"We are holding talks with Goukouni Oueddei and his men, but there are still some psychological barriers which must be overcome. We are working patiently. We are not discouraged and we hope Goukouni Oueddei will act to safeguard Chad's interests." Gouara Lassou made these remarks to the press today after an audience with the Senegalese head of state, Abdou Diouf.

Mr Lassou said that during the audience, he delivered a message from Chadian President Hissein Habre to Abdou Diouf, whom he also briefed on the current situation in Chad.

Questioned on France's decision to cross the 16th parallel, the Chadian foreign minister stated that his government still does not know how far France will go, adding: "We hope France will help us recover our territorial integrity and restore Chad's independence."

TOGO

Fence Erected Along Ghana Border at Lome

AB131734 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 13 May 87

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] There seems to be no warming of relations between Togo and Ghana. They plummeted to Arctic temperatures in September last year when Togo accused Ghana of being involved in an attempted coup and assassination of President Eyadema. Since then, the border has been more or less closed. Now it seems the Togolese have put up some kind of fence or wall at the border near Lome.

French journalist Harold Chisel has just been in Lome. Julia Slater asked him what the wall was like.

[Begin recording] [Chisel] Compared to the Berlin Wall I think it is perhaps not a very noble edifice. [laughter] It's a ramshackle construction painted white, a little bit of wood, and a little bit of concrete, and a little bit of wire. It doesn't seem it will be very effective but it's symbolic more than anything else, I'm sure.

[Slater] Do you know why they are putting this fence up now?

[Chisel] Well, two reasons: probably to annoy the Ghanaians because, you know, the frontier was closed, and then the Ghanaians said they would open it up, and the Togolese opened theirs and the Ghanaians refused to open theirs. It's a sort of reaction. Of course, there is always the problem of further infiltration or suspected infiltration from Ghana because when the coup took place in September, of course, the Ghanaians were pointed out as the main culprits in saying that the force came from over there. So it is also to prevent any military action.

[Slater] Is the border post at Aflao open for legitimate traffic?

[Chisel] None whatsoever. I was there. It's very calm, quiet, as if the frontier hasn't been open in 10 years, in fact.

[Slater] Did you get the impression that no goods were going across in either direction?

[Chisel] No goods were officially going across, but I know goods do go across in the central and northern parts of the country. Lots of them, especially — well, from Ghana gold and vice versa, rice going into Ghana, and consumer products. I know because one of my friends is in the rice business and he just sent two trucks of rice into Ghana. [end recording]

ANGOLA

Deputy Foreign Minister on Ties With U.S.

LD132323 Paris International Service in French 2030 GMT 13 May 87

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Announcer] Angola recently resumed its contacts with the United States. Here are some comments by Deputy Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura, recorded by our Brussels correspondent Daniel Delois:

[Begin De Moura recording] It was nearly 15 months ago when we once again suspended our contacts with the United States for the process of southern Africa, Namibia, and [words indistinct]. Our government remains flexible and understanding. Faced with America's strong insistence, we have responded favorably, that is, we have agreed to resume contacts. We have formally made an initial exploratory contact, during which we informed the Americans of our sovereign decision to resume talks. We also wanted to ask, and we expect the U.S. side to be able to bring new elements to the table. [sentence as heard] The reason we suspended talks was the fact that the United States intended to invite UNITA leaders to its country, as well as a series of actions reflecting a ruthless and reprehensible form of interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state like ours. So, if the United States really does want to play the role of mediator, it must bring some positive elements, without interference, without complications, so there may be a real contribution to peace and cooperation in southern Africa. [end recording]

[Announcer] Venancio de Moura, whom we just heard, is in Brussels representing Angola at the meeting of the joint council of 66 countries from Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific, and of the 12 EEC states linked by the Lome Convention. That meeting opens tomorrow. Among the topics on the agenda are: the consequences of enlarging the EC to include Spain and Portugal, the question of sanctions against South Africa, and technical, financial, and cultural cooperation.

SOUTH AFRICA

U.S. Firms Fear Enforcement of Group Areas Act

MB140715 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] U.S. companies in South Africa are meeting urgently today as the government steps up its crackdown on Group Areas Act offenders. Government officials have warned American and European businesses they face prosecution if they continue to flout the law by allowing black executives to live in company-owned houses in white residential areas. American Chamber of Commerce [Amcham] President Ian Leech says whether the foreign corporations take action or not will depend on the mood of the meeting. He says Amcham has consistently urged the government to phase out the Group Areas Act.

Meanwhile, it has emerged that police in Johannesburg have set up a special plainclothes squad to sniff out Group Areas Act offenders. And in a separate development the government is selling a so-called illegally owned building in Johannesburg as part of its get-tough campaign. Details on the sale of the building and the special squad are not immediately available.

Police Deny New Unit Set Up

MB141030 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1024 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] Johannesburg May 14 SAPA — A police unit to investigate contraventions of the Group Areas Act had been in existence for years and was not part of an alleged "crackdown" on offenders, a police spokesman said today.

He said the number of members of the unit had in fact diminished since its formation in the 1970's and its activities had been confined to investigating complaints received from the public. The police had a duty to investigate all reports and complaints.

"Speculation about the unit being used for a crackdown on Group Areas Act offenders is nonsense," he said.

Referring to reports that a building in Johannesburg was to be sold because it contravened section 41 of the Group Areas Act, he said had not yet been able to establish the correct facts regarding the incident but would be in a position to comment "at a later stage."

Information Bureau Summarizes April Unrest

MB131353 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1348 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] Pretoria, May 13, SAPA — Herewith the Bureau for Information's unrest summary for April:

There was a sharp rise in unrest-related incidents during April with the highest figures of incidents and deaths yet, for 1987. These figures are, however, still lower than that of the 6 months preceding the national state of emergency. The rise can, to a large extent, be attributed to the labour unrest that occurred.

The highest rise in incidence comprised stonings and arson. The areas most affected were Soweto, East Rand, Witwatersrand and Natal. About 70 per cent of the reported damages were caused to railway coaches.

The fact that the unrest climate and the planning of unrest is still present, makes it realistic to expect rises in the level of unrest from time to time. This, however, does not indicate a change in the unrest tendency.

Issues 13 May Unrest Report

MB141215 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1212 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] Pretoria, May 14, SAPA — The Bureau for Information's unrest report for the period 0001 to 2400 on May 13:

Unidentified persons set fire to two railway motor coaches and an hook-up coach at the Braamfontein Station in Johannesburg the night before last. Extensive damage was caused. No injuries or arrests were reported.

A black woman was arrested in Kwamashu (Durban) yesterday after an incident of intimidation. The woman also threatened to burn down the home of a member of the security forces.

Unidentified persons set fire to the Thubelihle School in Kwaggfontein (KwaNdebele) yesterday. In a similar incident, the Khuphukani School in Tweefontein (KwaNdebele) was set alight. Extensive damage was caused. No injuries or arrests were reported.

A member of the SAP was slightly injured and 6 black men arrested when a group of about 200 workers of Delmas Chickens (Delmas) stoned the police who were present during a wage dispute. Minimal damage was reported. Other unrest-related incidents reported during the above mentioned period comprised isolated stonings, arson and petrol bomb attacks. No injuries or arrests were reported and damage was indicated as minimal.

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB140841 [Editorial Report]

CITIZEN on PFP Election Defeat

The page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 13 May comments on the PFP's defeat at the polls saying the PFP "must be wondering what kind of misfortune they must continue to endure. But they have only their members to blame. Progs [PFP] for Perth, or Packing for Perth [Australia], became a popular gibe against the PFP as the exodus [emigration] of Progs gathered momentum. The Progs who quit South Africa have not just left their party in the lurch — they have also refused to face up to the challenges brought about by change. More tragically, they have not stayed to help build a new and just society."

Johannesburg Struggles Between Left, Right

"For the best part of two decades Johannesburg has been hamstrung by a double conflict — that between the left and right within its council chamber and that between the practical interests of Johannesburg and the ideological dreams of Pretoria," notes a page 14 editorial in Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 13 May. "In some ways the impasse within the municipality reflects the national dilemma and which side eventually wins may well indicate future broader trends." "In recent months the city came so close to breaking with residential apartheid that we seemed about to show the world that South Africans are capable of such a move. With a PFP majority in council we would have stood a better chance of encouraging that trend."

Beira Corridor Not To Eliminate Dependence on RSA

A commentary on the same page notes that the director of the Pretoria-based Africa Institute, Dr Erich Leistner, says it was "false to assume that once the Beira Corridor was operating Zimbabwe would no longer be dependent on South Africa for its external trade." Leistner believes the Beira port will not be able to "handle more than 40 percent of Zimbabwe's external trade by 1990." Leistner also points out that "'there are substantial and politically relevant groups in Zimbabwe which are anxious that economic relations with South Africa should not be impaired.' 'South Africans generally appreciate their country's economic pre-eminence. What they comprehended too little, though, is the possibility of utilising this position to promote in a constructive fashion South Africa's security interests, while at the same time reaping economic returns.'"

BUSINESS DAY: PFP Unprepared To Control Johannesburg

A page 8 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 13 May says the PFP is "perhaps fortunate that the flight of councillor Mike Sutherland to Australia has spared it the risky opportunity to govern" Johannesburg. "There is, frankly, little indication that the PFP is organisationally or politically ready to take control." But, "the departure of Mike Sutherland offers an opportunity for the national leadership of the party to make Ward 25 a test case — to find an outstanding candidate, to define an acceptable strategy for non-racial urbanisation, to commit itself to the physical protection and spiritual welfare of the existing inhabitants, and to see if it can win the confidence of the voters. It must, in short, show that its attachment to principle is neither racially selective nor contemptuous of small people, and that it has the common sense to govern."

U.S. Loses Leverage in RSA

"The pressure put on American corporations to become the agents of political change in South Africa can end only in the defeat of those corporations," remarks a second editorial on the same page. "Sullivan Code pressures have persuaded some U.S. corporations that they can destroy the Group Areas Act by ignoring it — a course of action that rested on the tolerance of the SA government which, in turn, rested on the relationship between Washington and Pretoria." "The fact that government has indeed decided to move against them merely underlines the American loss of leverage in SA."

CAPE TIMES: P.W. Botha Not Reformist

"It is difficult to credit the news at the weekend that a witch hunt has been set in train to drive out of their homes people who are living in group areas zoned for other race groups," says a page 12 editorial in Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 11 May. The editorial further says "there has been much wishful thinking about Mr Botha's political attitudes. People seem to have believed that he would condone the widespread violation of the Group Areas Act as a way of preparing the ground for its eventual abolition. This belief is shown to be groundless. In retrospect, we see that Mr Botha has never been a 'reformist' in any meaningful sense of the word. Whatever 'reforms' he has put forward, he has always insisted on retaining the fundamental laws of apartheid and white supremacy."

IDASA Hope for Country

Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 12 May in a page 10 editorial says "it is IDASA, the Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa, which comes to the fore most powerfully after the election. Its inaugural meeting in Port Elizabeth was important more for the form than the substance. Drawing from a remarkably wide spectrum, it managed to bring together people of very different views under a democratic

umbrella. They ranged from workerist to classical liberal and beyond. The cross-currents of analysis and criticism in the formal sessions and in the workshops were instructive for the country at large. Democracy was the focus." "The challenge facing IDASA is the challenge facing South Africa: getting out of the trough of despair and of polarization. The quest is for a new, a democratic, a non-racial, a united South Africa. Sadly, in present conditions, this is likely to be pursued more outside than in Parliament. IDASA can play an active national role, on its own and with allies."

SOWETAN Criticizes Homeland Independence

"The only surprise about the developments in Transkei, the first so-called homeland to get 'independence' in 1976, is that it took more than a decade for the system to collapse in that otherwise unstable and mismanaged state," says Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 13 May in its page 4 editorial. "The fact that moves to carry on with this disastrous experiment are still to go ahead as in the case of Kwandebele, indicate the seriousness with which the grand plan is being orchestrated by the white oligarchy." "Ironically, Transkei, which should by now be the most viable, most successful of the tinpot republics set up at the instance of South African white politicians, is collapsing. Our feeling is that the fraud should have manifested itself long ago as millions of Xhosas [tribal members] and other South Africans have had to suffer under the jackboot governments of these puppet leaders."

PFP Not Contributing to Reform

A page 8 editorial in Cape Town *Die Burger* in Afrikaans on 12 May says: "Once again the PFP press has incorrectly judged the political mood in South Africa. The PFP's 'turbo-charged' strategy has been shattered." The Cape PFP newspaper "blames English-speaking voters, who came out for the NP in their thousands, for being silly and even implies they have turned to Nazism." *Die Burger* says that "despite finding themselves in a pitiful position, the PFP offers no constructive contribution to the reform initiative. English-speaking South Africans deserve better than this self-destructive negativism."

BEELD: PFP Needs Self-Examination

"Instead of identifying and addressing the problems — such as incompetent leadership, a total lack of understanding of the fears and aspirations of the electorate, and the irresponsibility of its left-wing," the PFP is "berating the voters for being a bunch of blockheads," says a page 8 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 13 May. Nevertheless, *Beeld* believes "there are enough responsible moderates within the PFP who want to improve matters and see that the party plays a useful role in politics. Therefore, proper self-examination is needed, not finger wagging."

ZAMBIA

Kaunda on Copperbelt 'Lawlessness,' IMF Offer

MB131824 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 800 GMT 13 May 87

[Text] The president, Comrade Kaunda, condemned the lawlessness that has occurred at the Copperbelt following appeals from the party and its government leadership to businessmen to reduce prices. The president said that he had not yet received a report to confirm that the looting and harassment had been done by party cadres or not.

Addressing a press conference at Mulungushi Hall, the president said he would like to see a peaceful and orderly change from an IMF-supported economic program to a Zambian-supported one and said if any party cadre was found engaging in lawlessness, he or she would be disciplined.

The president, Dr Kaunda, also disclosed today that IMF is willing to reopen the discussion with Zambia whenever the country was willing to do so. Addressing a news conference at Mulungushi Hall, Comrade Kaunda said he had received a message from the IMF saying the organization's doors were still open to Zambia. The president, however, stressed that Zambia would stick to its economic recovery measures for the time being and expressed hope that donor countries and organizations would continue to support the country.

BBC on Rioting, Reshuffle

MB131645 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 13 May 87

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Zambia is in deep crisis at the moment both financially and politically. A couple of weeks ago, President Kaunda decided to go it alone without IMF cash that was linked to a tough austerity program. The World Bank then told Zambia there was no more money for new development projects. There has been a government reshuffle, more than a (?whisper of) scandal at the Bank of Zambia and, to top it all, more disturbances on the volatile Zambian Copperbelt. In the December riots there, over an increase in food prices, a lot of people died.

Julian Borger asked Jim Fish in Lusaka how serious the latest trouble was.

[Begin recording] [Fish] Well, the trouble was very extensive. Yesterday evening, in Kitwe, riot police had to be brought in to control the situation after extensive looting broke out in one of the markets in Kitwe and spread to other parts of the town. There was also reports of some kind of unrest, possibly rioting on a lower level, in Ndola, the next-door town to Kitwe, but the reports are fairly sketchy and all we know about at the moment is that at least two people were injured, including one policeman.

[Borger] What seems to have caused this outbreak?

[Fish] Well, the main cause that we can put our finger on is an action by party militants of the ruling UNIP [United National Independence Party] party to control prices in the markets in the main towns of the Copperbelt and also to clear out unlicensed traders of secondhand clothes which are known here as (talahula) and are very popular products, the prices of new clothing being beyond the reach of most Zambians. This action by party militants seems to have got out of hand and it seems to have developed in Kitwe, in particular, into a kind of free-for-all whereby gangs of youths have descended on market stalls and literally pulled

them to pieces. President Kaunda this morning said that he had not yet received a report on the incident and he couldn't comment on whether party people were actually involved. If they were involved, he said, disciplinary action would be taken.

[Borger] Now, I understand that at the same time President Kaunda has appointed a new finance minister. Who is he?

[Fish] Yeah, the new finance minister is Mr Gibson Chigaga, up to now attorney general and minister of legal affairs. It is quite a surprising appointment in that, as far as we know, Mr Chigaga has no great track record in either economics or finance, and the Finance Ministry is obviously in the front line of efforts now to restructure the Zambian economy without the IMF which, everyone seems to agree, is a titanic task.

[Borger] And he comes in at a time when there seems to be some sort of scandal hanging over the Bank of Zambia. What is it about, exactly?

[Fish] Yes, at today's press conference, President Kaunda shocked everyone when he announced that there had been a terrifying report he received on misconduct in the Bank of Zambia throughout most of last year, it seems to have taken place. We don't know what kind of misconduct is involved, but he announced that the deputy governor of the bank and the general manager of the bank were both being dismissed, plus about 11 other officials in the bank. He said that he was personally extremely shocked to find what they had been up to and it seems that he was even... [changes thought] he felt personally offended by this. Mr (Moathe), the general manager of the bank, is in fact related in some way to President Kaunda.

[Borger] Yes, certainly. It seems that President Kaunda is now moving to clear the (?decks) as it were, for Zambia's go-it-alone policy without the IMF and, in order to do that, he has seen the need to get rid of same of the major actors in the financial and economic institutions of the country. The Bank of Zambia in particular is very strategic now. Without the IMF, the Bank of Zambia is the sole institution responsible for allocating foreign exchange, and foreign exchange is going to [be] the burning question in the next few weeks and months. Without foreign exchange, the country will very quickly start to shudder to a halt. The economy needs extensive and frequent inputs of foreign exchange just to keep the copper mines, to keep the main industry of the country going, and the Bank of Zambia is obviously the crucial body to make sure that the country (?keeps well). [end recording]